THE NEW YORK HERALD.

WHOLE NO. 10,631. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1865. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Important Proceedings of the Convention.

The State Has Never Been Out of the Union.

Unanimous Declaration that the Secession Ordinance Never Had Any Legal Effect.

The Ordinance of 1789 Has Always Been in Force Since Its Enactment.

Election to be Held on the 2d of November.

Personnel of the Members of the Convention.

Position of the State in 1861 and 1865.

&c. &c. &c.

Appointment and Reports of Committees—Provisions for the Election of Members of Congress and Legislature, &c.

RALEIGH, Oct. 4, 1865.

The Convention met at eleven o'clock.

A resolution to hoist the national flag over the Capitol was adopted.

Mr. B. F. Moore, from the Business Committee, made an important report, embodying work for the Convention, and, among others, resolutions for the appointment of committees in reference to the secession ordinance, to the abolition of slavery and to the procurement of a general amnesty.

The rules were suspended, and the report was at once adopted.

The President appointed a committee on the ordinance of secession, who at once retired, and soon after returned and reported an ordinance declaring null and void the secession ordinance of 1861. The report was unanimous. The ordinance was laid over for one day under the rules.

The President appointed a committee on abolition of slavery, with Mr. Settle, a strong Union man, as chairman, and a committee on procuring a general amnesty, with Judge Gilliam as chairman.

Mr. B. F. Moore introduced an important ordinance providing for the election of members of the State Legislature, to convene on the third Monday of November, and for members of Congress, said election to be held on the first Thursday of November. Under its provisions no one is to be eligible to a seat or capable of voting who, being free in all respects, shall not before the 27th of May, 1865, have voluntarily taken and subscribed to the oath of amnesty prescribed in the proclamation of President Lincoln with the purpose to suppress the insurrection and restore the authority of the United States, and thenceforward shall have observed the same, or who shall not have taken the oath prescribed in President Johnson's proclamation of the 29th of May, 1865, or who shall be excepted from the amnesty. Laid over for one day.

Several other ordinances for the election of municipal officers, &c., and several resolutions were introduced.

The Convention is wholly and thoroughly Union.

Mr. Settle, from the Committee on the Abolition of Slavery, will to-morrow report the following:—

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SLAVERY IN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Be it declared and ordained by the delegates of the people of the State of North Carolina, in convention assembled, and it is hereby ordained, That slavery and involuntary servitude otherwise than for crimes whereof the parties shall have been duly convicted shall be, and is hereby, forever prohibited within the State.

Despatch from Governor Holden to President Johnson—The Ordinance of Secession Declared Null and Void, &c.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6, 1865.

The President this evening received the following despatch from Governor Holden:—

RALEIGH, N. C., Oct. 6—8:15 P. M.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:—

SIR—The Convention has just passed the following by a unanimous vote:—

That the ordinance of the Convention of the State of North Carolina, ratified on the 21st day of November, 1789, which adopted and ratified the constitution of the United States, and also all acts and parts of acts of the General Assembly ratifying and adopting amendments to the said constitution, are now, and at all times since the adoption and ratification thereof have been, in full force and effect, notwithstanding the supposed ordinance of the 20th of May, 1861, declaring the same to be repealed, rescinded and abrogated; and the said supposed ordinance is now, and at all times hath been, null and void.

The Convention will dispose of the slavery question to-morrow.

The State elections will be held on the first Thursday of November. Very respectfully,

W. W. HOLDEN, Provisional Governor.

Our Raleigh Correspondence.

EXCHANGE HOTEL, RALEIGH, Oct. 3, 1865,

THE PERSONNEL OF THE CONVENTION.

As I become more acquainted with the members of the Convention and their antecedents I find it to be a yet more decisive representation of the Union sentiment of the State than I had at first supposed. The people of North Carolina appear to have been so desirous to make their repentance and reform clearly understood that they made the degree of a candidate's Unionism the criterion of their choice. Thus many men but little known and only of moderate capacity, who had been bold and fearless in their denunciation of secession, triumphed over candidates of established reputation and admitted ability. Thus in Yadkin county Thomas Haques, a plain, unassuming man, without any previous prominence, defeated Chief Justice Pierson, one of the ablest men in the State, and so astonished the public as to become the observed of all observers. Justice Pierson was a moderate Union man, while Haques has always been defiant and extreme in his opposition to secession, and hence his success. A similar result was shown in several other districts. Three of the delegates to this Convention—Gen. Dockery, Judge Gilliam and Col. Thomas J. Faison—were members of the Constitutional Convention of 1835.

THE CONVENTION OF 1861.

The position of the State of North Carolina in 1861 is probably not generally understood in the North, and as I have made several allusions to the Convention of that year it may be as well to give a brief account of the condition of affairs in the State at that time. In February, 1861, the question of a State Convention was submitted to a vote of the people, the ballots being "Convention" and "No Convention," and the delegates to the Convention were voted for at the same time, with the understanding that if the Convention should be ordered they should meet, and if not ordered their election should be void. The issue of secession or no secession was made in the nominations for candidates, and the result was that eighty-four strong and decisive anti-secession Union delegates were elected out of one hundred and twenty members, by an aggregate vote which showed a popular majority of fifty thousand for the Union. But at the same time the "No Convention" ticket prevailed by about one thousand majority. The reason of this was that the Union men feared the success of the secession candidates, and so voted against holding a convention at all, under the impression that that would finally settle the question. The secessionists all voted for the convention, and so did such Unionists as felt confidence in their ability to carry a large majority of the delegates. The Convention was therefore, unfortunately, not held.

A few weeks afterwards the State Legislature peremptorily ordered a convention without submitting the question to the people, and an election for representatives was ordered. All, or nearly all, the other States had gone out, and the State was in a condition of wild excitement. But a very brief time was allowed for the election, and the result was the choice of the delegates who met on May 20, 1861, and took the State out of the Union. The Union men who were in that Convention were unable to resist successfully, and, after throwing all the obstacles they could in the way, bent before the storm of secession. There is but little doubt in the minds of those who understand the State that, had it not been for the violence and terrorism resorted to by the secessionists, the popular vote would at any time have been fifty thousand against secession.

The remainder of the delegates are plain, straightforward men of the people. It is scarcely enough to call the Convention "Union" in its sentiments; it is, in truth, utterly anti-secession. The general feeling of the delegates was evinced yesterday when a member proposed to adopt temporarily the rules governing the Convention of 1861. There was really nothing in the proposition, but the Convention, by the promptness and tone of its rejection, proved that they would not tolerate even the slightest seeming recognition of the body whose action sought to take the State out of the Union.

ALABAMA.

Repudiating the State War Debt by the Convention.

OUR MONTGOMERY CORRESPONDENCE.

MONTGOMERY, Sept. 28, 1865.

THE STATE DEBT.

In the Convention to-day Mr. Elmore, from the Committee on the State Debt, to which was referred an ordinance to repudiate the war debt of the State, reported a substitute for the same, which was adopted by yeas sixty, nays nineteen. The following is the ordinance:—

Be it ordained, &c., That all debts created by the State of Alabama in aid of the late war, directly or indirectly, are hereby declared void, and the General Assembly of the State shall have no authority, and they are hereby forbidden, to ratify the same, or to assume or to provide for the payment of the same or any part thereof.

And be it further ordained, That the General Assembly of the State shall have no authority, and they are hereby forbidden, to assume or make any promise for the payment of any portion of the debt contracted or incurred, directly or indirectly, by the Confederate States or by its agents, or by its authority.

A SPECIMEN OF THE PARDONED REBELS.

Barnett, Micon & Co., composed of several persons of this city, are now and have been, since and before the commencement of the late rebellion, the owners and proprietors of the Tallapoosa Cotton Factory, located in Tallapoosa county, in this State. They have made during the war an immense amount of money, as favored contractors of the late so-called Confederate government. The parties composing the company were persons particularly hostile to the United States government, and delighted to persecute and punish Union citizens who adhered to the flag of their country. During the war they refused to furnish a yard of cloth for the destitute women and children of the State, giving as a reason that "they only manufactured cloth for the soldiers of the Confederate army." At the close of the rebellion they found themselves in possession of a large amount of cotton, estimated at two thousand five hundred bales. Much of this cotton was the property of the rebel government, sent to the factory to be manufactured into clothing for the army.

This company, coming within several exceptions of the President's amnesty proclamation, and their factory being liable to confiscation under the acts of Congress, engaged the services of a prominent citizen lawyer and contracted with him to obtain pardons for the various members of the company, for which he was to receive one-third of the cotton.

The petitions were prepared, recommended and forwarded to Washington, and in due time the pardons were granted. Finding themselves pardoned and free to act they compromised with the attorney by paying the handsome sum of sixty thousand dollars. The next move was to present to the Secretary of the Treasury a large claim for compensation. The Hon. Hugh McCulloch will have a good time examining into this claim.

James Q. Smith, United States District Attorney, finding all the prominent rebels were being pardoned, set about finding the cause, when the above facts came to light. All the facts in the above case, with others, will be presented by the District Attorney to the Attorney General at Washington for directions in the premises.

THE TUNISIANS.

Their Rambles Through the City Yesterday—Visit to the American Institute Fair.

Our visitors from Tunis did an immensity of sight-seeing yesterday. Rising early, they had the articles in the various papers concerning them translated. They seemed quite astonished at the idea of all their movements being known to the press and recorded. Probably there are no such things in Tunis as ubiquitous reporters, which accounts for their wonder. They started early, as on the previous day, in order to see as much as possible of the city before they left. Driving up Broadway, the first place they stopped at was

BRADY'S PHOTOGRAPHIC GALLERY.

Here they were shown all the photographs of notabilities, to the list of which they would soon be added. The portraits of the great military and naval commanders, North and South, were examined by them with interest. They seemed well posted on the matters connected with our late struggle, as well as the leading facts in our national history. The views of our battlefields taken by Mr. Brady, as also the ruins of Richmond, &c., were much admired. The heroes of the Revolution, as well as the collection of portraits of our Presidents, seemed quite familiar to them. Doubtless our Consul did not fail, while in Tunis, to keep them posted on the history of his native country. After spending nearly two hours in the examination of Mr. Brady's collection, the members of the embassy sat for their imperial photographs. Photography is not a new art for them. Travelling artists from France and England frequently stop at Tunis, so that they were quite aware of the object of their sitting. Having been photographed the party again started, and visited next the rooms of the

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Here, too, they were much interested with the works of art collected there. The Egyptian department of the museum had considerable attraction for them, and they carefully examined all the specimens pertaining to that country. Nor were they a little surprised to see a marble monument from their own land, which had been forwarded to the Society through the kindness of Mr. Perry. That a great nation like America would care for placing anything from Tunis in one of their museums seemed very strange to them. All the articles of virtu were named to them by our Consul, who has spared no pains to afford them all the information in his power regarding all they have seen and heard.

A DRIVE THROUGH WALL STREET.

Wall street was the next place which they drove to. The public buildings along the route were pointed out to them, and, when fairly arrived in the celebrated stock market of the New World, doubtless they were made aware of the difference between the "bulls" and the "bears." We are not aware whether any member of the party invested in any petroleum stock or Irish republic scrip. We hope if they did that no bogus company has palmed worthless stock upon them. The meaning of the classical quotation, "striking lie," was properly elucidated to their great consternation. Considerable difficulty was met with in rendering this and other terms into Arabic, but after some time it was managed. Happy Tunisians! they had never their currency depreciated, knew nothing of a Jay Cooke or his "national blessing," never heard of Jenkins or Ketchum. Truly their land must be an elysium.

Towards evening they returned to their hotel, where a dinner, served up in the usual Astor style, was ready for their appetite, which was much sharpened by the day's tour of inspection.

AT THE AMERICAN FAIR.

During the day the embassy was waited on by a delegation of the managers of the American Institute, with an invitation for the party to visit their fair in the evening. General Haskins was pleased to accept the invitation, and at eight o'clock they drove to Fourteenth street, on their way calling at Mr. Blatchford's house, where Secretary Seward is at present stopping. Arrived at the fair they were received by Mr. Carpenter, General Hall and the other managers, and escorted through the building under the escort of Superintendent Kennedy and a detachment of police. The fair, usually crowded, was filled to repletion last evening, and it was with difficulty a passage could be cleared for them. Crowds of eager sightseers pressed from all sides to catch a glimpse of our distinguished visitors. They examined minutely all the interesting specimens of American inventive genius with which the building is filled, and frequently expressed their admiration. Not content with merely seeing each article, they tested everything for themselves. During the evening General Haskins was presented with a very fine sewing machine by Miss O'Connor, on behalf of A. H. Suplee. It was fully three hours before the party had made a circuit of the building, when they returned to the Astor House, very well pleased with their evening's amusement.

The embassy start for Washington early this morning.

Attempt of Dr. Mudd to Escape.

FORTRESS MONROE, Oct. 6, 1865.

The steamship Daniel Webster, from New Orleans, on the 22d ult., for New York, put in here short of coal. She reports landing some prisoners at the Dry Tortugas, and that Dr. Mudd had made an attempt to escape. He was found secreted in the coal bunkers of the steamer Thomas Scott, and put to hard labor, wheeling sand.

The quartermaster of the Scott was arrested for having aided Dr. Mudd in his effort to escape.

Senatorial and Assembly Nominations.

OSWEGO, Oct 6, 1865.

John J. Wolcott, of Fulton, has been nominated in this district for State Senator, instead of Ezra Colwell, as reported in the New York papers.

SING SING, N. Y., Oct. 6, 1865.

At the Union Convention of the Third Assembly district of Westchester county, held at Croton Dam, to-day, George A. Brandreth was renominated for member of the Assembly.

WASHINGTON.

Arrival of General Grant at the National Capital.

Increased Demand for Public Lands in the West.

Release of Ex-Mayor Lennox from Confinement in Fort McHenry.

&c. &c. &c.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6, 1865.

ARRIVAL OF GENERAL GRANT.

General Grant arrived in the city unattended at six o'clock this morning. During the forenoon he called on the President and Secretary Stanton on business matters. As the General, dressed in citizen's clothes, entered the War Department, unconsciously puffing his cigar, considerable merriment was excited among those who recognized him by a young lieutenant politely tapping him on the shoulder, in blissful ignorance of who he was addressing, and informing him that smoking was forbidden in the building.

DEMAND FOR PUBLIC LANDS.

The activity of the demand for public lands continues with remarkable increase throughout all the West. The reports from local land agents to the General Land Office of the business transacted during the month of September, indicate the extent of sales. The office at Booneville, Missouri, reports twenty-eight thousand acres of government land taken up and actually settled upon, besides the net cash sales, which amounted during the same month to nearly three thousand dollars. The lands bought for cash are mostly alternate reserved railroad sections, which sell at two dollars and fifty cents per acre. At Fort Dodge, Iowa, nearly five thousand acres are reported entered and settled upon, and at Menasha, Wisconsin, two thousand dollars from cash sales is reported.

The Commissioner of Public Lands received intelligence to-day that a man named Braden, recently a contestant in an extensive and valuable land case, had been forced to drop his litigation, having himself been dropped at the end of a rope by a vigilance committee of the Territories, for alleged horse stealing.

GENERAL BUTLER ON RECONSTRUCTION.

General Howard entertained an audience of four or five hundred ladies and gentlemen with a miscellaneous address at the Union League rooms to-night. A statement was received by proxy from General Butler, who was expected to be present, giving a few peculiar views upon reconstruction, calculated to tickle the soldiers. He favored the confiscation of all Southern lands travelled over by our armies, and colonizing them with discharged soldiers. He anticipated that the first call for help from the South would be from former slaveholders rather than freedmen, and intimated that in such a case Massachusetts would not be among the most active States in furnishing assistance.

EX-MAYOR LENNOX RELEASED FROM FORT M'HENRY.

Walter Lennox, formerly Mayor of Washington, has, after a confinement of twenty-one months, been released from Fort McHenry. He left this city at the outbreak of the civil war, but was subsequently arrested in Baltimore and imprisoned as above on the charge or suspicion of being a rebel emissary.

POSTAL SERVICE IN THE SOUTH.

The contracts for six important mail routes in Southern Arkansas and Louisiana were awarded this day at the Post Office Department. The new routes touch at Lancaster, Homer, Shreveport and other towns near the border of both States.

RATIONS FROM THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.

The Chief Commissary of Rations of the Freedmen's Bureau reports that the consumption of government rations by dependent freedmen and refugees has been less during the month of September than at any preceding time since the war.

ILLNESS OF GENERAL HORACE T. SANDERS.

General Horace T. Sanders, of Wisconsin, lies dangerously ill with consumption at Mr. L. B. S. Miller's, in this city. But little hope exists of even partial recovery.

A PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE ABOLISHED.

Orders have been issued abolishing the office of provost marshal of the defences north of the Potomac, and Colonel T. Ingraham, Thirty-eighth Massachusetts, who has long satisfactorily filled it, has been honorably mustered out of service. The order will also necessitate the retirement of Captain George R. Walbridge, another popular officer, Colonel Ingraham's assistant. The diminished business of the local provost marshal's department will be performed hereafter by officers of the District of Washington.

PERSONAL.

The rebel cavalry General I. D. Imboden is at Willard's.

The State Department has engaged rooms at Willard's for the Embassadors from Tunis, who are expected to arrive to-morrow.

Senator Garret Davis arrived in the city this morning.

THE NEW FIVE-TWENTY BONDS.

The statement that the new five-twenty bonds of the one thousand dollar denomination were ready for sale was in a measure premature. Five or six hundred copies have been printed and perfected, it is true, but it is purposed not to commence the delivery of the bonds until there is a sufficient stock of all denominations to fill the subscriptions as they come in. This will be in the course of ten days.

THE COMPOUND-INTEREST NOTE COUNTERFEITING CASE.

Detectives are digging away at the one hundred dollar compound-interest note counterfeiting case. It is understood that a large amount of conclusive evidence has been unearthed in different parts of the country, and that several persons have been arrested or put under surveillance in accordance with it. The whole story of that wonderful fraud will transpire in due time.

THE UNION LEAGUE ROOMS.

The Union League rooms on Ninth street in this city—quite a popular resort with loyalists during three or four years past—are rapidly going to the rats for want of pecuniary support. The janitor of the building has recently been around the departments soliciting subscriptions for the payment of the rent and support of the reading room, and reports that he met with very little encouragement from those who were wont to contribute when professions of loyalty covered a multitude of sins. The collector got money enough, however, from wounded soldiers and lounge rs on the avenue to pay a couple of months' rent, and the rooms will go on for that length of time. The reading room has been supplied for a long time from the old exchanges of the *Chronicle*—Forney's paper—but for some unexplained reason that tap has lately been cut off.

APPOINTMENTS.

The President this morning made the following appointments:—John V. J. Fintry, Collector of Internal Revenue for the Third district of Maryland, and Isaac Morgan, direct Tax Commissioner of the State of Alabama.

INTERNAL REVENUE RECEIPTS.

The receipts to-day at the Office of Internal Revenue amounted to $965,899.

BRIEF CABINET SESSION.

The only members present at the brief session of the Cabinet to-day were Postmaster General Dennison and Secretaries Stanton and Welles, the other members being absent from the city.

THE TRIAL OF GENERAL BRISCOE.

Colonel Arhmussen, of the Provost Marshal General's Department, testified in the Briscoe trial to-day in corroboration of the evidence previously given against the accused. The witness, with General Curtis, went into General Briscoe's room and arrested him. The prisoner was searched, and the stolen property was found in a chest in the room.

CORRECTION.

By a telegraphic blunder an item in to-day's New York papers was made to read as follows:—"It is said that Mr. Russell, Postmaster at Davenport, Canada West, has been removed and that George M. Saunders has been appointed in his stead." The true statement is that Mr. Russell, Postmaster at Davenport, Iowa, has been removed, and General Saunders has been appointed in his stead.

THE MISSISSIPPI GOVERNORSHIP.

Private information said to have been received here by certain parties announcing positively the election of B. G. Humphreys, a rebel brigadier general, as Governor of Mississippi, creates some speculation as to his eligibility. The assertion that he is unpardoned may prove untrue. Southern men here say that he certainly applied for pardon, that he was recommended for Executive clemency by Governor Sharkey, and that he would scarcely presume to solicit the suffrage of the State without an intimation that it would be forthcoming in the event of his election, if he has it not already in his pocket. His canvass for Governor has been made with the knowledge and consent of the governmental authorities, if not at their instigation. As a corollary, his pardon is certain. Mr. Humphreys was expelled from West Point by court martial in 1827, before graduating.

The Governor Elect of Mississippi.

The latest news from Mississippi indicates that Judge Fisher, the nominee for Governor of the reconstruction convention of that State, has been defeated. His successful competitor is said to be General Benjamin G. Humphreys. This individual is not merely one of the militia generals of which Mississippi and all the Southwestern States are so prolific, but a *bona fide* rebel general. He tried to be a regular United States army officer, but while a cadet at West Point in 1827 he was court martialled and dismissed for some offence.

General Humphreys is a resident of Sunflower county, Miss., but was some years since a Senator in the State Legislature from Claiborne county. In the days of the whig party he was an old line whig. Since it has become fashionable among Southern gentlemen to declare that at the beginning of the war they were devoted Unionists, who fought secession until compelled to fight for it, General Humphreys has laid claim to such a character; and his friends now say, we know not how truly, that he was a firm Unionist in 1861. Be this as it may, we know that very soon after the fatal firing on Sumter Humphreys had raised and was commanding a rebel company known as the "Sunflower Guard." His friends seem to think that his sudden abandonment of his own principles and adoption of those of his friends and State was a great virtue, and one of the papers of Mississippi advocating his election lately said:—"Ben. Humphreys was a Union man, and opposed secession; but when the State would try to get out, and war was made on her people to keep them in, he took off his coat and went in to help his hasty neighbors."

Since General Lee set the example of fighting against his own principles because his friends were going to do so, this sort of cheap virtue has been much in vogue among our Southern brethren.

The Sunflower Guard became a part of the Twenty-first Mississippi rebel infantry, and Captain Humphreys became colonel. His regiment was ordered to Richmond, and took part in the seven days' battles on the Chickahominy and in the second battle of Manassas; was at Harper's Ferry and Antietam and the retreat which followed. Humphreys served with the regiment during the winter of 1862-'63, being engaged at Fredericksburg, and subsequently at Chancellorsville. He also participated in the campaign in Pennsylvania, and during the battle of Gettysburg he succeeded the elder Barksdale in command of his brigade. He was promoted shortly after (Aug. 12, 1863), to the rank of brigadier general Confederate States army. He was engaged in this capacity at Chickamauga, whither he had been sent with Longstreet's First corps to the aid of Bragg; took part in the unsuccessful sieges of Chattanooga and Knoxville; ran away from East Tennessee to be in time at the Wilderness and Spottsylvania Court House. He was sent after the investment of Petersburg to operate in the valley with Early. In the engagement of October 19, 1864, he was wounded in the chest, and in the December following he went home to recover from his wound. He was yet at home when the surrender of Lee to Grant took place.

General Humphreys is undoubtedly a man of intelligence and ability. His experience has been great, although confined to State affairs, and he is not far from being a good representative of the reconstructed rebels. No announcement has as yet been made of General Humphreys' pardon by the President, but application for it was made through Governor Sharkey on the 27th ult., and will doubtless be granted.

Brooklyn City News.

KINGS COUNTY POLITICS—REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS FOR CITY AND COUNTY OFFICERS.—The Kings County Republican Convention yesterday nominated the following ticket:—

District Attorney—E. L. Sanderson.
County Treasurer—Andrew B. Hodges.
Superintendents of the Poor—Francis B. Kirby, John Montgomery and Andrew Hegeman.
Justice of the Court of Sessions—Wm. H. Hoyt.
Coroner—John W. B. Smith.

The Republican City Convention met last night and nominated the following ticket, and it is a very strong one:—

Mayor—Samuel Booth, by acclamation.
Comptroller—William G. Borgs.
Collector of Taxes—General E. L. Molineaux, by acclamation.
City Treasurer—General Samuel Roberts.
Auditor—Sergeant James McLear, of the Fourteenth regiment.

THE RECENT EXCAVATION ACCIDENT.—John Hieman, Julius Schwartz and Mathew Heisch, who were buried by the falling in of an embankment in Remsen street, E. D., on Wednesday evening last, and rescued in an injured condition, have so far improved as to be about again. The man Nichols, who was killed by the same accident, leaves a wife and child. His head was badly cut by a falling beam, but death resulted from suffocation. Coroner Barrett will hold an inquest on Tuesday next.

VISIT OF ADMIRAL FARRAGUT TO A PUBLIC SCHOOL.—Vice Admiral Farragut, accompanied by his wife, Hon. Moses F. Odell and several other gentlemen, visited Public School No. 15, in Brooklyn, yesterday. The "Old Salamander" was most enthusiastically received by the teachers and scholars, and the pupils in the male and female departments went through some exercises prepared for the occasion, as the visit had been arranged for. The Admiral expressed himself highly pleased at the proficiency displayed by the children, and the gratification was also shared by the scholars in receiving a visit from so distinguished a man. There are over fifteen hundred scholars on the attendance rolls of this school, and its management and discipline are said to be unsurpassed.

GRAND PROMENADE CONCERT.—Company A, Forty-seventh regiment N. G. S. N. Y., Captain J. Bloom, gave a grand promenade concert yesterday evening at their new armory, in Fourth street, E. D. The armory on this occasion was tastefully decorated with flags and streamers. The guests assembled at about nine o'clock. Suffice it to say the female portion of the assemblage were of the first families of the Eastern district. The first and second parts of the programme consisted of selections from the popular music of the day, performed by a good military band, to the strains of which the guests promenaded the hall. The third part was devoted exclusively to dancing. The affair was gotten up in good style, was well conducted and apparently gave full satisfaction to all those who had the good fortune to participate in it.

Mass Meeting of Negroes in Tennessee.

NASHVILLE, Oct. 6, 1865.

A great mass meeting of negroes and freedmen was held at Edgefield yesterday afternoon, six thousand persons being present. An address was made by Brigadier General Fisk. He rejoiced that the negroes of Tennessee were free, as God intended them to be. He told them that they must prove themselves entitled to freedom by industry, sobriety and integrity. His duty was to see that they discharged their duties. He would put the black man in the jury box and on the witness stand. His remarks were received with great enthusiasm. He was followed by several other speakers, after which the meeting adjourned.

General Fisk states that during the past week six or seven hundred negroes have been sent to their former homes in different parts of the State, and have contracted with their former owners to work for wages. Within a month there will be a general clearing out of negroes here, arrangements having been effected to procure them labor in different parts of the South.

News from Japan.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 4, 1865.

Dates from Kanagawa, Japan, to August 26 have been received. The receipts from the interior had been liberal, but the extreme prices demanded by the natives almost precluded purchases. Silks had also advanced so much as to check business; stocks were accumulating. There was an active demand for silkworm egs for export to Europe. Exchange on London and China was lower.

There was nothing new in political affairs. The birth of Napoleon I. was celebrated during the week preceding August 25, at Hakodadi, all the residents of foreign birth participating apparently with equal interest. The *fête* wound up with races, and a regatta, and is noticeable as showing the great cordiality in that mixed community.

GENERAL LEE.

His Installation as President of Washington College.

DETAILS OF THE CEREMONY.

Opinion of Lee on National Affairs.

&c. &c. &c.

Our Special Correspondence.

LEXINGTON, Va., Oct. 2, 1865.

General Robert E. Lee was to-day installed President of Washington College. There was no pomp of parade. The exercises of installation were the simplest possible—an exact and barren compliance with the required formula of taking the oath by the new President, and nothing more. This was in accordance with the special request of General Lee. It was proposed to have the installation take place in the college chapel, to send invitations far and wide, to have a band of music to play enlivening airs, to have young girls, robed in white and bearing chaplets of flowers, to sing songs of welcome; to have congratulatory speeches, to make it a grand holiday. That this proposed programme was not carried out was a source of severe disappointment to many. But General Lee had expressed his wishes contrary to the choice and determination of the college trustees and the multitude, and his wishes were complied with.

THE INSTALLATION CEREMONIES.

The installation took place at nine A. M. in a recitation room of the college. In this room were seated the faculty and the students, the ministers of the town churches, a magistrate and the county clerk, the last two officials being necessary to the ceremonial. General Lee was inducted into the room by the Board of Trustees. At his entrance and introduction all in the room rose, bowed and then became seated. Prayer by Rev. Dr. White, pastor of the Presbyterian church, directly followed. To me it was a noticeable fact, and perhaps worthy of record, that he prayed for the President of the United States. Altogether it was a most fitting and impressive prayer.

JUDGE BROCKENBROUGH'S SPEECH.

The prayer ended, Judge Brockenbrough, chairman of the Board of Trustees, stated the object of their coming together, to instal General Lee as President of Washington College. He felt the serious dignity of the occasion, but it was a seriousness and a dignity that should be mingled with heartful joy and gladness. Passing a brief eulogy upon General Lee, and congratulating the board and the college, and its present and future students, on having obtained one so loved and great and worthy to preside over the college, he said he could say a great deal more, had it not been voted against speech making. During the delivery of these few words—and they came, despite the prohibitory voting, very near culminating to the dignity of a set as well as eloquent speech.

GENERAL LEE'S APPEARANCE.

General Lee remained standing, his arms quietly folded and calmly and steadfastly looking into the eyes of the speaker. Justice William White, at the instance of Judge Brockenbrough, now administered the oath of office to General Lee. For the benefit of those curious to know the nature of this new oath to which General Lee has just subscribed, and as it is brief, I give it entire. It is as follows:—

THE OATH.

I do swear that I will, to the best of my skill and judgment, faithfully and truly discharge the duties required of me by an act entitled "An act for incorporating the rector and trustees of Liberty Hall Academy," without favor, affection or partiality. So help me God.

THE KEYS GIVEN TO THE NEW PRESIDENT.

To this oath General Lee at once affixed his signature, with the accompanying usual jurat of the swearing magistrate appended. Those inquisitive enough to seek further light than that revealed in the copied oath can look at the act therein referred to, and, when found, make a note of it. The document in the form stated was handed to the County Clerk for safe and perpetual custodianship, and at the same time the keys of the college were given by the Rector into the keeping of the new President. A congratulatory shaking of hands followed, and wound up the day's brief but pleasing, impressive and memorable ceremonial. President Lee and those of the trustees present with the faculty now passed into the room set apart for the former's use—a good sized room, newly but very plainly and tastefully furnished.

GENERAL LEE'S DRESS AND APPEARANCE.

General Lee was dressed in a plain but elegant suit of gray. His appearance indicated the enjoyment of good health—better, I should say, than when he surrendered his army at Appomattox Court House, the first and only occasion before the present of my having seen him. His looks and bearing have been often and minutely described, and I will not dwell upon them here. Most pictures of him on exhibition come up to the average of fidelity of this class of likenesses.

WASHINGTON COLLEGE.

Turn we now from the installation exercises and our half-way pen and ink sketch, made thus by public familiarity with the subject of the new President elect, to a description of the college over which he is to preside. It is an old and venerable and most worthy institution. It first came into existence in 1774, but then as Liberty Hall Academy. A quarter of a century later General Washington transferred to it State stocks to the amount of fifty thousand dollars, given him by the State Legislature, at which time its name was changed to Washington Academy. In 1818 the charter was again modified, giving it the name of Washington College. Very soon after the Cincinnati Society, of Virginia, donated some twenty thousand dollars, which has since been followed by a bequest of forty thousand dollars by John Robinson, a wealthy bachelor. This constitutes the principal endowments of the college. The college buildings are five in number, in a row, and built of brick, and from two to four stories in height. On the central building surrounding the cupola is a fine marble statue of Washington. The buildings are a light brown color, with massive white pillars extending along the whole front. All the buildings have been freshly painted outside and inside, giving the whole a new and neat appearance throughout. The situation is on a commanding height on one side of the town, and looking down upon it, and for beauty and extent of view unsurpassed. The towering heights of House Mountain and Hog's Back in the rear present a counterpart view to the old Dunderberg and Crow's Nest in the rear of West Point. Then there are the Green Hills and the Sallings Mountains, with the rest, parts of the famous Blue Ridge so renowned for their grand undulations and the emerald beauty and richness of their waving woods. In all its glorious loveliness, as far as the eye can see, stretches the expansive, fertile and gorgeously magnificent Kanawha valley. But I need not dwell on the scenic beauty. Meantime there have been a thousand graduates at the college. Many of these have been distinguished in the professions, in the world of letters and art, in mechanics and war.

HUNTER'S RAID AND THE COLLEGE.

General Hunter's raiding party, or army rather, that paid this section of Virginia a visit in June, 1864, in addition to the destruction of important grain mills, the Virginia Military Institute and other public buildings, managed to leave the college disagreeable tokens of its belligerent advent and presence. Happily, they burned none of the buildings, but the books of the library were nearly all taken away, and the chemical and philosophical laboratory completely destroyed. Not satisfied with this, the invading wearers of Uncle Samuel's blue walked away with their pockets full of mineralogical and geological specimens it had taken half a century to collect, and said to be the finest in the country. The main blame of all this I find, however, charged upon the rebel General Mccausland, who, with fifteen hundred men, had the audacity to try to keep Hunter's army of thirty thousand from entering and taking the town. This General McCausland will be remembered as the one who has since been indicted for setting fire to Chambersburg, Pa. Although the shells flew about pretty lively for a time, none hit any of the college buildings, although one hit Prof. Campbell's house near by. It is a singular fact that this shell passed through the roof and two floors into the parlor, where it harmlessly terminated its erratic mission by severing the cord by which was suspended a likeness of General Washington. The picture fell several feet, but neither it, the frame nor glass was in the slightest degree injured. Professor Campbell, who told this fact, spoke of it as, if not genuinely classical, certainly a pleasing and agreeable omen.

THE WAR'S INTERRUPTION.

While not a single Northern college or university was seriously interrupted by the war—and yet hundreds of their students inscribe their names imperishably on the scroll of immortal honor by becoming volunteer soldiers—this has not been the case with Southern institutions of learning. All these have been closed—Washington College as well as the rest. As early as June, 1861, the college classes here were broken up. On the whole, the war proved a serious interruption to the college, and it will take a long time to recover from its damaging effects. Saying nothing of the loss of its library, laboratory and mineralogical cabinet, referred to elsewhere, it has suffered other losses by the wholesale scattering of its classes, and the intermediate and natural neglect of its buildings and grounds. The college, in fact, has to begin over again, although, fortunately, with General Lee at its head, under auspices bright and encouraging.

THE PROSPECTS OF THE COLLEGE.

About one hundred students are already on the ground. It is confidently believed that within a very short time there will be as many more here. Altogether, the prospects of the college very never brighter. Professor White soon starts on a tour to solicit contributions in its aid. Already the two literary societies—the Graham Philanthropic Society and the Washington Literary Society—have taken measures to make up the losses their libraries sustained by the invasion of Yankee troops. There is the fullest confidence that the people of the Old Dominion, and the South generally, will liberally respond to this call for substantial aid about to be made on them. General Lee's name, of course, will furnish the staple of appeal, as it now furnishes the base of bright expectancy. It is not the first time General Lee has been an instructor of youth. As commandant at West Point he had a two years' apprenticeship, which may now stand him not only in good service in his new position, but furnish special basis of appeal for pecuniary aid.

GENERAL LEE'S FIRST ARRIVAL IN TOWN.

On the 14th of last month General Lee made his first appearance here. He came on horseback, alone and unattended, and riding the dark gray horse he rode most of the time during the war and at his surrender. A soldier's affection he evidently has for this favorite steed. This horseback ride extended over a hundred miles from Cumberland county, where he and his family have been staying for some time, and where his family is still sojourning. What must have been his thoughts on this ride, and what a theme such a veritable and distinguished solitary horseman would have been for novelist James! It was the intention to open the college term two weeks ago, when General Lee first came; but the backward state of repairs prevented it. All the trustees, nineteen in number, were then present, and postponed the college opening till to-day. These returned to their homes again, while General Lee went to Roxbridge Springs, where he remained till yesterday.

THE GENERAL ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

A gentleman with whom I have conversed, and who saw General Lee and heard him talk and express freely his opinions about national affairs nearly every day of his sojourn at Roxbridge Springs, spoke of him as the most modest and unassuming man he ever encountered, and yet, while frank, most firm in giving his views. He counsels cheerful submission to the government and earnest striving to bring about the old state of peace, industry, thrift and content. He has the greatest confidence in President Johnson and the good and equitable wishes and intentions of the government and the Northern people in carrying out the scheme of reconstruction.

FUTURE RESIDENCE OF GENERAL LEE.

A fine two story brick house, with massive portico and pillars in front and having two wings, and on the same row with the College buildings, is to be the future residence of General Lee. It has a capacious yard, beautifully shaded with oak, elm and locust trees, and a fine hedge-row of cedars. It is a fitting place for scholarly ease and philosophic content. At present the General is stopping at the Lexington Hotel in town. It is expected that he will move with his family into his new residence about the last of this month. And here we leave him in his home that is to be, secluded and shaded and hedged about by imposing mountains, and miles away from railroads, and with never a longing thought, doubtless, for the great outer world and its more enticing and splendid prizes.

THE JOURNEY AND CONDENSED OBSERVATIONS.

I cannot well close my letter without saying something about the journey here, the state of railroad and other travel, and general condition of the country and people here and hereabouts. The steamboat and railroad journey was an agreeable one. Coming up the James river on a new line steamer one could not fail to be comfortable. On the Virginia Central Railroad and to Staunton the travel is pleasant. Railroad travel is rapidly becoming in the South what it used to be before the war. From Staunton here is thirty-six miles. As the stage does not run on Sunday, and I could not wait over, I took a private conveyance. Some profound moralist has left it on record that there are few pleasanter sensations than being whirled rapidly along a good road, behind a slashing team. I found it so, but not in this case. Much less a team, I found it exceedingly difficult to get a single horse and vehicular attachment. And such a horse and such a vehicle, and such an outfit generally, and such speed. After making known my wants to the two livery stables in town, and being told that all the horses and conveyances had been engaged by the young men of the town for the Sunday wants, I resorted to bribery.