THE MEMPHIS DAILY APPEAL.

BY BENJAMIN F. DILL. MEMPHIS, TENN., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1865. VOLUME XVI.—NUMBER 47.

MEMPHIS APPEAL.

PUBLISHED DAILY & WEEKLY

—BY—

BENJAMIN F. DILL.

To whom all Letters should be Addressed.

PRICE OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily (in advance) per annum : : : : $18 00
" " per week : : : : : 25
To carriers and news-venders, per copy : : : 5
Weekly per annum (in advance) : : : : : 5 00

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Correspondence of the Cincinnati Enquirer.

ENGLAND'S COLONIES.

The Eve of a New Revolution in America—Britain's Chickens Coming Home to Roost—The Canadian Sons of Liberty Extending—Their Object Annexation to the United States—Determined Resistance to Consolidation of British Power on this Continent—Confederation of the Colonies a Blow at the French Canadians—The French and Fenians Working for England—A Fenian Invasion their Earnest Hope—How the Canadas can be Conquered—Separation from England their only Salvation—Canada as a Base for Fenian Operations.

HAMILTON, C. W., Dec. 17.

The present moment, when the invasive and unprovoked conquest of Canada, by the Fenians, is attracting so much attention, I have thought it would not be inopportune for a few remarks upon the relations existing between England and her Colonies, Colonial destiny, and the great political questions now agitating the minds of the Canadian statesmen and people. The letter to perform the task attempted by me, it may be proper for me here to take

A Glance at Canadian History.

Nearly all your readers are more or less acquainted with Canada, its system of government, wealth, resources and the composition of its people; but few, except those who have made the matter a subject of study, are familiar with the political revolutions through which these Provinces have passed since they became dependencies of the British Crown. Hence I shall here briefly review these points.

From the time of the cession of the Province to England, until that period ending with the rebellion of eighteen hundred and thirty-seven, the French inhabitants of Lower Canada may be said to have been the lords of the soil. Upper Canada was sparsely settled, while Lower Canada continued a large population. From the moment Canada became British territory, emigration from the British Isles began to flow in.

The possession of such a promising colony naturally attracted thither, among the emigrants, many young scions of British bankrupt families, who used to find in olden times that India was a favorite asylum in which to retrieve their broken fortunes. India had been "played out," and naturally the North American colonies were looked upon as a favorable spot in which to operate. These young bloods found their way to this country, where but a few years passed ere they had worked themselves into positions of trust, under the Government, which received its inspiration from Windsor Castle, and gradually the people were crowded out of positions of trust; the Government became more and more a Government for the enriching of the aristocracy, at the expense of the poor emigrant and the hardy *habitans*, until eighteen hundred and thirty-five, when we find the entire Government controlled by heartless sprigs from England, whose oppression of the poorer classes became so grievous that it culminated in the popular uprising of eighteen hundred and thirty-seven, under Papineau's and McKenzie's lead—a rebellion that was promptly suppressed by the power of British troops partly, and partly by promises of reform in the system of government. With that rebellion the intelligent reader is familiar, so I will pass on to the results.

The Commission sent out by the Imperial Government to investigate the grievances of the colonists possessed much honesty and ability, and the result was that many reforms were suggested that were subsequently carried out. Among others were, that of extending the rights of the people, establishing responsible Government, i. e., making the Government directly responsible to the people instead of, as before, to the home Government. Other reforms followed, and in eighteen hundred and forty England, by a master stroke of policy, endeavored, or rather succeeded, in consolidating her power by a union of Upper and Lower Canada under our Government. The object of this was apparent. The descendants of Jacques Cartier, of Lower Canada, largely outnumbered all the other inhabitants from the British Isles; and England, far seeing and avaricious as she has always shown herself, determined to strike a blow at the French power that would forever render it harmless. With all the perfidious cunning and treachery for which she is noted, under pretext of a desire to allay political and religious animosities, and strengthen the colonial government, the French were forced into this union, and compelled to give Upper Canada equal representation, although it was vastly inferior to them, in point of population and wealth. These brave and determined people accepted the new union under protest, and the result is that to-day they are threatened with the extinction of their religion and language.

The moment the Union was affected the tools of Albion set to work to revolutionize politics. Tory governments, composed of miserable, unprincipled satraps of Downing street, conspired to strengthen English power at the expense of the poor colonists, who were taxed to support profligate office holders; and since then the country has been going from bad to worse, until her present debt is over eighty million dollars, to a population of less than three million. It is true, for short periods reform Governments have administered the affairs of the Government, but Tory power is so strong that their tenure of office has been short, and political parties have become so mixed that no reform government can stand the storm.

Since the union of the provinces the upper province has developed itself and increased in population and wealth at such a rapid ratio that to-day we find Upper Canada in the ascendency and Lower Canada's population yearly decreasing. Yet the Upper Canadians are not satisfied, and for years have clamored for renewed representation based upon population. In it they see they can out vote the French and hold the balance of power. These encroachments upon the rights of the original owners of the soil partly led to the annexation hurricane that passed over Canada in eighteen hundred and forty-nine. To this demand for increased representation the French Canadians have declared they will never yield. For ten years it has been the rallying cry at every election, and as often have those who found Upper Canadians ready to stand by the Lower Canadians and vote down all attempts to swamp Lower Canadian power.

Hon. George Brown, of the Toronto *Globe*, has long been the champion of the Upper Canadian majority and representation by population, but about two years ago he and the leaders of the tory party in canada, and the result was a coalition between the reform party, he represented and the tories, led by Hon. John A. McDonald. The basis of this coalition, in which Mr. Brown took office, was confederation of the British North American Colonies under one government, and the consolidation of British power on this continent. The real object, however, was to drive circumvent the French, as we shall see in see.

The Confederation Scheme.

Upon which Messrs. Brown and McDonald coalesced, proposes to unite New Brunswick, the Canadas, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Prince Edward's Island under one general government, with separate local Legislatures to each Colony, for the local government of the respective Colonies. For a time this new idea was received with much favor. A commission was sent to England to negotiate with the Home Government on the subject, and they returned pledged to carry out the measure to a successful issue, with the support of the Imperial authorities. When the details of the scheme became public, the public for the first time began to consider the points involved in the question; the enormous tax upon them for the defense of the Confederate Colonies; and here was the turning point. The maritime Provinces spoke in an unmistakable manner their condemnation of the scheme, on the ground that Canada, being the larger power in the confederation, would hold the balance of power, and would use the other Colonies for her own enrichment.

Lower Canada at last opened her eyes to the true intentions of the artful politicians, and her press and public denounced the scheme in unmeasured terms as a direct blow aimed at their existence as a colony.

As might be expected, the Government, which was pledged to the introduction of this measure into the last Parliament, when they saw the opposition to it from Lower Canada and the maritime provinces, shirked the issue, and postponed the question indefinitely.

Government Schemes to Proselyte the Provinces.

But there was method in the madness of the Canadian Government, as the sequel will show. The moment the Parliament adjourned and the scheme had been shelved, Canada opened her heart, and her bowels of compassion yearned toward her fellow colonists of the Lower Provinces. Grand feeds on a magnificent scale were arranged, and the leading men of the sister Provinces invited to participate. They came in the summer, were petted and *fêted*; the members of the Canadian Government escorted them from Pashe to Windsor, and for weeks bored them with confederation and false praise, to convert them to their more advanced ideas. But they returned home as strongly as ever opposed to the scheme of confederation, which the Executive of Canada declared would not be forced upon the maritime provinces against their will.

An election contest in New Brunswick has been decided in favor of the scheme, and the result is that the Canadian Government and their organs have taken heart, and now declare in after dinner speeches that confederation will be carried in spite of all opposition.

British Coercion of the Colonies.

The history of political parties in the Colonies, and the result of the recent war in the United States, has at last opened the eyes of the British Government to the fact that if she would retain her hold upon the North American Colonies she must consolidate her power, and build up a Government that will rival the United States, under a monarchial form of Government. Hence we find it now her declared policy to bring about this consolidation of interest in spite of all opposition. With this end in view, she proposes to sell to Canada the Hudson Bay Territory, and add it to the consolidated power. In this she displays her cunning, for she sees that unless something of this kind is done that the United States is destined to absorb Canada first, and then her other North American Colonies one by one, until she will not have a foothold left upon this hemisphere.

The Interests Working Against this Scheme.

This declared policy of England has at last fully aroused the colonists, and the lower provinces are manfully battling for their rights. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward's Island have emphatically condemned this scheme as oppressive and tyrannical, and now we find the seeds of

Revolt Raising up

in Lower Canada. The French people who in eighteen hundred and thirty-seven rebelled, are fully aroused. The order of the "Sons of Liberty" is extending all over the Province. They are contributing their means and establishing their organs, which wage a fierce war upon British domination and coercion. Already the order numbers about fifty thousand good men and true, who, if forced into confederation, will rebel as certain as they did in eighteen hundred and thirty-seven against British oppression and wrong. This order is rapidly revolutionizing Lower Canada to annexation to the United States as the only safeguard against confederation with Upper Canada and certain ruin to themselves.

Other Parties in Sympathy.

In the rebellion of eighteen hundred and thirty-seven the Irish population joined hands with the loyalists against the French and Upper Canadian patriots, and materially assisted in putting down the rebellion. At the present time we find matters reversed. The Fenian movement in the United States has extended to these Colonies, and to-day we find the Fenians of Canada and the French Canadians, whom they fought in eighteen hundred and thirty-seven, standing on the same platform—destruction of British power in Canada either by gradual absorption or by annexation to the United States. The Irish Fenians and the French Canadians from fifty one-half of the entire population. They are pretty thoroughly organized, and number in their ranks many able minds.

A Fenian Invasion all that is Required.

This being the state of feeling in Canada, I am forced to the conclusion that Canada is on the verge of a popular uprising that is to decide forever whether she shall have free institutions or whether for fifty years more she shall go on as she now is, a colonial dependency on the British Empire, spurned and shunned by the world. Her destiny, in a measure, rests in the hands of the Irishmen of the United States.

I have spent many months in the Provinces, mixing with her public men and the masses of the public, conversing with all parties, and making myself thoroughly familiar with her resources, power to carry on war, and have been forced to the candid decision that the moment for her redemption is not far off.

How it Can be Accomplished.

The present strength of the effective volunteer and regular forces in Canada is less than fifteen thousand. This, in time of war, nobody here estimates, can be raised to over thirty thousand men, were the Government to throw in all their resources. Now, were fifty thousand or seventy-five thousand Fenians on the United States, under proper officers, organized for a simultaneous invasion in the winter season, at six or eight different points—say ten thousand at Rouse's Point, ten thousand at Cape Vincent, ten thousand at Ogdensburg, ten thousand at Niagara, and ten thousand each at Port Huron and Detroit—the country could easily be conquered without much fighting. The threat of from three to four thousand Imperial Government would be unable to distribute their thirty thousand troops in such manner as to offer any serious opposition to an invading army.

These forces could congregate unarmed, as citizens, about the frontier points named, whither arms and two days' rations had preceded them, and in two hours they could be equipped and marching across the ice for the redemption of Canada. Once there, and the cities of Montreal, Kingston, Prescott, Windsor, Larned and Niagara in their possession, Ottawa could be reached by the Ogdensburg column in two days' marching; the Canada Fenians would rally to the green standard of Erin, and before a week President O'Mahoney and his Senate could quietly sit down in the Imperial Parliament buildings. The French would only be too glad of an opportunity of this kind to rise and take Quebec, with its five thousand garrison and its ever ready fire bonds that bind them to the British crown. Does any one for a moment suppose that in the United States, where there are two hundred and fifty thousand enrolled Fenians, President O'Mahony could not get seventy-five or one hundred thousand men ready to embark in an enterprise of this kind that would strike a fatal blow at England, while it would also free their fellow countrymen in Canada from British domination? The man who knows any thing about the movements of large armies and can not see that this work is quite feasible must be a fool. The only possibility of failure I consider would be the

Action of the United States

Government, which, it is well known, leans toward the Fenians. Of course, if the United States were knowing beforehand of an invasion from their territory of Canada, they would be bound to do their utmost to prevent it; but the Fenians could so secretly concentrate their forces and promptly strike, that, before the Government could send troops to prevent the act, they would be in Canada. Once there, the Fenians would be entitled to be recognized by the United States as belligerents, the Government could disavow their sympathy with the Fenians, and, following British precedent, recognize the new Irish Republic.

Conclusion.

I have thus briefly indicated the sentiments of the Canadian people, and in conclusion wish to remark that Canada, at the present moment, is ripe for revolt. There are loyal and brave men here who would manfully resist, but with half the population praying for a change in the form of government, any revolution that would give them an excuse for throwing off the yoke of England would be hailed with unfeigned joy by one-half the population of Upper and Lower Canada. Indeed, the "Sons of Liberty" and the Fenian organizations have assumed such formidable proportions, and are laboring so harmoniously for the same end, that I fear they will not wait for an invasion to rise and shake off the shackles that bind them as in a vise.

What the Fenians would Gain.

Every one man knows that the Fenians can never fit out an expedition from the United States ports for the redemption of Ireland. That attempt would force the United States Government to crush them. But let them once get possession of Canada, and be recognized as belligerents, they could seize every steamer and vessel frozen up on the Canadian lakes and rivers, and by spring have a naval armament sufficient to spread terror into "England's hearts of oak."

☞ It is a curious fact that Victor Hugo should labor under the delusion that he has unknown Italian avocation, and that as a painter he would have achieved greater fame.

☞ Miss Reeve, a young English lady, who for three years voluntarily carried on a great educational work amongst the poor children of Naples, recently fell a victim to cholera in that city.

☞ About fifty vessels per week leave New York for points south of Baltimore and Washington.

☞ Three fires occurred in Chicago on Monday night, by which fifteen families were burned out of house and home, and eighteen horses literally roasted to death.

☞ The Chinese are no more progressive than formerly. They have refused permission to officers, sent there by Russia, to build a telegraph line from one of their ports to Pekin.

☞ A movement is on foot to present a memorial to Congress for the reinstatement of the bosses and workmen recently discharged from the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

☞ Garrotting and robbery are becoming so frequent in St. Louis that the residents in a certain section of the city have organized a vigilance committee for protection.

☞ Burglars attempted to enter the residence of P. T. Barnum, on Wednesday night, but his alarm telegraph (a good thing to have in the house) frightened them away.

☞ In the Louisiana Legislature a bill has been introduced providing for the establishment of a Bureau in aid of Federal and Confederate disabled soldiers.

☞ The Montgomery correspondent of the Mobile *Times* says that the negroes are beginning to appreciate their condition, and are rapidly making contracts for the coming year.

☞ President Johnson has positively declined to accept a carriage made for him by the workmen of the army repair workshop, after their working hours, and it has been purchased by Secretary Stanton.

☞ The Masonic Lodge of the "Great Orient," at Palermo, has issued a circular letter in reply to the papal allocution, in which it is asserted that Pio Nino was a member of the order in the early part of his life.

☞ Private advices from Kingston, Jamaica, state that the English Government is about to send out a commission to investigate all the recent occurrences in that island, and that astounding facts will then be disclosed.

☞ In Louisiana the sergeant-at-arms of the Senate is without legs, the doorkeeper of the House without arms, the secretary of the Senate and the clerk of the House are both on crutches. Late of the Union army.

☞ A man in Providence, Rhode Island, asked the city authorities to give him three hundred dollars for injuries received through the city's neglect. It was refused. The man went to law, and the jury has just awarded him five thousand and five hundred dollars.

☞ The recent discharge of a number of bounty jumpers and deserters from the Albany penitentiary, has created quite an excitement in that city, the release having created a perfect "carnival of crime" in that vicinity.

☞ The "Trent," the historic vessel associated with the seizure of Mason and Slidell, has not long survived the injuries we war. At last accounts she was at the Isle of Dogs, where she was to be broken up. Her career is ended.

☞ A miner near San Andreas, California, lately found a portion of a Mammoth tree, one hundred and twenty-five feet under ground, the heart of which appears to have become mineralized, presenting the appearance of shining silver.

☞ Hon. J. H. Beveridge, the Treasurer of the Lincoln Monument Association, reports the amount on hand on the fourteenth instant to be sixty thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven dollars and ninety-six cents—an increase of six thousand one hundred and twenty-nine dollars and seventy-five cents within the last fortnight.

☞ Owing to the time required for copying the diplomatic correspondence with England and France, referred to in the President's annual message, it is not probable that the transcript will be communicated to Congress until after the holidays.

☞ The Sanitary Commission, in November last, collected nine hundred and thirty-three soldiers' claims, amounting to one hundred and thirteen thousand dollars. All the labor performed by the Commission for men of the army and navy is gratuitous.

☞ A petition is circulating for signatures in Savannah, Ga., to present to the Legislature, asking enactments to legalize a higher rate of interest than seven per cent., with a view of inducing a flow of capital to the State, which is so much needed at this juncture.

☞ The people of Minnesota have voted down negro suffrage by a majority of twenty-five hundred; Wisconsin ditto by a majority of eight thousand; Connecticut ditto by a majority of six thousand; Colorado by a vote of ten to one. The only State which has sustained negro suffrage is Iowa.

☞ The examination of a cow which died suddenly in Maine this week, showed that a piece of hoop-skirt steel spring, about two inches in length, which she had swallowed, and not being able to digest, had worked through the stomach and penetrated the heart, soon causing death.

☞ A Houston, Texas, paper of December the first, says: "Main street has been blocked, for two or three days past, with cotton teams. From the way it has been coming in for several days past, it seems that there is no end to that precious article in Texas. We hopethere never will be."

☞ At a meeting of the Alumni of Amherst College, held in Boston on Thursday, the treasurer said that the College has half a million in money, and that he has just received one hundred thousand dollars from the estate of the late Dr. Walker, of Newport, and expected to receive as much more.

☞ The Legislature of Tennessee having refused to allow negro testimony to be taken in the Courts of that State, Gen. Fisk, Superintendent of the Freedmen's Bureau of that district, under special orders from the War Department, has issued an order which demands that all cases in which negro testimony is involved, and which have heretofore been disposed of by municipal authority, shall be brought before the Court for adjudication.

☞ A circular, signed William P. Craighill, Captain of Engineers, Baltimore, Md., announces a movement which has just been inaugurated to erect, at West Point, a monument to the memory of Maj.-Gen. McPherson. It is proposed to deposit the remains of this lamented and gallant officer at West Point, if his friends will permit their removal.

The Richmond *Enquirer*, of the sixteenth inst., says that the report was current in the city that Gen. Terry was about to issue an order prohibiting the sale of liquor until the fifteenth of January. The streets were alive with men who had "smelt the rat," and were busy with their bottles, demijohns and casks, laying in a month's supply.

☞ We have seen a letter from Gov. Henry W. Allen, dated at the city of Mexico on the third instant. Gen. Price and Shelby, Gov. Harris and Judge Perkins were still at Cordova. Gen. Magruder, Capt. Maury, and Gov. Reynolds, of Missouri, were in the city of Mexico, in the civil service of the Empire. Agents were about being sent to all the large cities in this country and Europe, to invite colonists.

☞ The Secretary of State has replied at length to Earl Russell, upon the subject of our claims arising out of the rebel privateer depredations, and those who profess to know the contents of the document, assert, without hesitation, that John Bull, when he reads it, will submit a proposition referring the whole subject in dispute to friendly arbitration. The letter of Mr. Seward went forward in the steamer of Wednesday.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

☞ Two important decrees have recently been issued by Maximilian, one of them extending for fifteen days from the twenty-ninth of November, time in which the soldiers of President Juarez laying down their arms were to be granted amnesty, and the other ordering a general draft for the army throughout Mexico. Immigrants are said to be arriving in the country in large numbers, and these arrivals Maximilian's friends adduce, among many other things, as evidence of increasing confidence in the durability of the Empire. The United States Consul at Vera Cruz is recognized by the Imperial authorities.

☞ Virginia is fast recovering from the terrible effects left upon her by the war. But few traces are now seen upon the renowned battle fields of Bull Run, At Manassas Junction the fortifications have nearly disappeared—a scarcely distinguishable line alone marks their existence. At Bristow the graves of the fallen are leveled with the ground, and the ties of the long line of blockades, from Burke's Station to the Rapidan, have been made into railroad ties. From Alexandria to Culpepper, however, the country is still barren, almost a desert, but at Orange Court House new houses and fences now fill the places of those destroyed.

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MANY OTHER NICE THINGS,

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Keeps constantly on hand the best French, English and Scotch Cassimeres and Cloths.

Clothing made to order in the most approved styles, with promptness and dispatch.

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EVERY MATERIAL & STYLE,

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It is the object of this Agency to make Large Sales at Small Profits. After you look around call on your old friend the "Veritable JOE," for Bargains, at

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Rivaling the Schiedam, Hollands or any other standard article.

Excelling the mixtures of the many manufacturers of the day.

Is the Best Diuretic, the Simplest Stimulant, the Most Palatable Beverage.

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Near the Mississippi River.

CALL AT ONCE.

I OFFER TO SELL One Thousand and Forty Acres of Cotton land, on the Mississippi River, within two miles of Friar's Point, Coahoma County, Miss., and twelve miles from Helena, Ark. There are between 700 and 800 acres in a high state of cultivation, with a Dwelling and all necessary out-houses. There is no better soil in the Mississippi Valley, and in the exact latitude for Cotton.

I will sell Very Cheap, if early application is made.

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I WOULD respectfully call the attention of merchants and others, that I am weekly receiving a fresh supply, and adding to my already large stock of the finest Ale and Lager Beer, which I can supply to dealers.

I am also agent for the celebrated

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Put up in half barrels. All of which I warrant to keep sweet in this climate for months.

I also have for sale Foreign and Domestic Wines and Liquors, Cordial, London Porter, Scotch Ale, etc., etc.

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COTTON SEED.—200 bushels New Cotton Seed, for sale, warranted fine quality, ready for delivery in sacks.

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DIXON & HOUGH,

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AND

SOLICITORS IN CHANCERY,

Office Over Commercial Bank, Corner Madison and Main Streets,

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Attorney at Law,

OFFICE:

Corner of North Court & Second Street,

Blythe's Building.

nov7-3m

Dr. R. L. Butt,

OFFICE At Jacobi & Co's Prescription Store.

No. 376 Front Street,

Near the Gayoso House

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312 DENTISTS. *312*

HAVING removed our office to the corner of Main and Monroe streets, we take pleasure in announcing to our numerous patrons and friends, both in the country and city, that we are now prepared to perform all operations however difficult and intricate, belonging to our profession, in the most judicious and skillful manner. All late improvements in Plate work will receive our personal attention, and with our practical experience and facilities for operating, we feel safe in offering our services, with an assurance of rendering entire satisfaction to all those who may favor us with their confidence. Memphis Dental Depot at same place, No. 312 Main st. dec24-1m

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Late of St. Louis, Mo. Memphis, Tenn.

Hart & Carmack,

ATTORNEYS and Counselors at Law, No. 42 Madison street, DeSoto Block, Memphis, Tenn. de20 1m

C. G. Armistead,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

No. 15 West Court st., bet. Front and Main,

MEMPHIS, TENN.

dec12-1m

LANDON C. HAYNES, J. M. LEWIS,

of Tennessee. Late of N. Carolina.

R. R. HEATH, POLYBIUS K. LEE,

Late of N. Carolina. of Tennessee.

Haynes, Heath, Lewis & Lee,

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DeSoto Block, Madison St.

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Refers to—Gov. Clark, of Miss.; Prof. Gustavus Mott, M. D. New Orleans; Prof. Myddleton Michel, M. D., Baltimore, S. S. White, Lyons, M. D., Surgeon General, State of Miss.; Gen. Saml. Gholson, Aberdeen, Miss.

nov29-1m*

GILBERT MOYERS. WM. W. DEDRICK.

Moyers & Dedrick,

Attorneys at Law.

And Solicitors for Claimants,

No 46 North Court Square,

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