MEMPHIS APPEAL.

MEMPHIS.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1866.

☞ Correspondents must bear in mind the rule of writing on one side only of the sheet, in order to enable us to make use of their favors.

THE MAILS.—The daily train on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, will enable Col. Gist to send regular mails every day to nearly every point, North, East and South. The river service, which, on account of its uncertainty has been very annoying, will be dispensed with except for way business. The mails will close at two o'clock and fifteen minutes, P. M.

PANOLA STAR.—The last number of this spicy weekly paper, published at Panola, Miss., by our friend Maj. M. S. WARD, came to us greatly enlarged, and printed on entirely new type. It is one of the best of our country exchanges, and we are glad to note this substantial sign of its prosperity. Its editor is now on a visit to our city, and our merchants would not go amiss of their interests by making known what they have to sell through the *Star*.

RELIEF FOR THE WIDOW OF GEN. ROBERT HATTON.—A committee has been formed at Lebanon, in this state, to raise funds for the relief of Mrs. HATTON, relict of Brig.-Gen. ROBERT HATTON, who was killed in the battle of Seven Pines, before Richmond. Contributions may be left at any of the offices of the papers in this city which sympathizes with the object of the committee. Gen. H. was a noble hearted Tennessean and we cannot believe Tennesseans will see his widow lack their support.

COTTON FRAUDS.—It will be seen that the telegraph gives information of great frauds in cotton having been ferreted out, and that high military and civil officials are implicated therein. This is probably about the last the good easy people will hear of it. Big fellows who steal cotton, are very apt to have the means of hushing up any unpleasant disclosures. Doubtless there has been a great deal of this kind of thing done, but to get at it, and expose the reputable plunderers; is quite another matter. There was an immense amount of sugar stealing done in the Confederacy, and a great hubbub raised about it; but we believe the investigation into who did it, never came to anything. So we apprehend, it will be with these fellows who sold their honor for cotton.

☞ We had the pleasure, yesterday, of meeting Maj. R. B. GORSACH, formerly Chief Engineer of the Nitre and Mining Bureau, in the district of Alabama. The Major is on his way to Mexico, where he had lived before the war, exercising his profession of civil engineer. He gives us some interesting facts about the country, for which we will find room at an early day. It takes but five days from New Orleans to reach Cordova, which has come to be a Mecca to many of us. The cost in gold of the trip will probably not exceed seventy-five dollars. Emigrants should take nothing but what is necessary for the trip, as, in the opinion of Maj. GORSACH, counting the cost of transportation, it would be a losing business. Take light baggage, and a little gold, and, hot for Cordova.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE POLITICIANS.

To preserve the "life of the nation," —or in other words, to suppress the rebellion, —the United States Government called into the field millions of men, and expended thousands of millions of money. We are bound to believe that the object was, in preserving the "life of the nation," to perpetuate good government over all the territory embraced within the limits of the American Republic. The model, the ideal, the incarnation of that Government, as these existed in the hearts of the people, was the UNION of these States, under the CONSTITUTION of the Revolutionary Fathers, as they made it and left it, as a precious legacy, to those who were to come after them.

It was for that object, and no other, that the farmer left his plough, the artisan his workshop, the merchant his counting room, and the divine his pulpit, to follow the war waged for the maintenance and preservation of the Union. It was for that object, and no other, that the hardy sons of the North West rushed in almost countless thousands, from the peaceful pursuits of life, to confront and contend with, in deadly conflict, their insurgent Southern brethren. It was under the guise of this object, that other thousands of immigrants were induced into and enrolled in the ranks of the Union armies. The poor foreigner, ignorant alike of our language and the cause of quarrel between the two sections, nevertheless had this motive—to preserve intact the unity of that Government which, in his own down-trodden land, had loomed up in his imagination as the "asylum of the oppressed and the home of the free." Each and all—whether native or foreign born—had a common object—to preserve the Union, and thus maintain, on this continent, good, because free, republican government.

The war thus waged, thus supported, thus sustained by the people, is at an end. The Government which lent to a revolt the dignity and the dimensions of a Civil War, in contradistinction to a "rebellion," is overthrown and dispersed, and its chief is a helpless captive and prisoner, subject to the clemency or the vengeance of his successful rival in Presidential supremacy over the insurgent States. The Cause, though maintained with a stubborn endurance and valor that has made the American name a synonym throughout the world of the highest soldierly qualities, is irretrievably lost. Its supporters, with a frank unanimity unparalleled in the history of civil strife, acquiesce in this decision of the fortunes of war, and with a manly sincerity that challenges the admiration of their adversaries, renew their allegiance to the ancient domination. They, too, desire to restore and perpetuate the "life of the nation," by restoring the supremacy of the Constitution of their fathers.

Thus, they who fought, and they who have been conquered, unite in the one wish—to render solid and enduring the supremacy of good government in the indivisible Republic founded by WASHINGTON.

But while the People, who were erstwhile in arms for this object, have returned to their homes content with what they supposed was its attainment, the Politicians are in pursuit of other and quite different objects. "The Union as it was" and the Constitution as the Fathers of the Republic made it, are abominations in their eyes. Instead of a Union of co-equal States, they desire to establish a Central National Power which shall differ but in name from a consolidated Empire. Instead of a mixed republican government, divided in its functions and responsibilities, between the Legislative, the Executive and the Judicial departments, they are drifting rapidly towards a Congressional Oligarchy, ambitious of swallowing up or overshadowing all other branches of the Government. Those who favor this tendency, far from regarding the war as ended, treat the subject as if it were only passing through one of its phases—the mode of prosecuting it only being different. Instead of great armies, marshaled to combat and destroy armed and defiant "rebels," they would keep in the field of the lately-ended strife, troops of civil retainers, to harrass with persecutions and confiscations an unarmed and defenseless people. Instead of inflicting defeats, no longer possible from the absence of all resistance, they would impose humiliations where there is no practicable power of resentment. With these resolutionists of the spirit of our Government, there is no peace, nor do they desire any short of that which will mark the apathy of submission to despotism.

THE PEOPLE want good government, and only that. The *politicians* want power, and the means of retaining it. Which shall triumph? It rests with the people themselves. At the seat of Government this great problem is now being solved. The politicians seem to have securely entrenched themselves in the two houses of Congress. The people have one representative, in the President. Born of and nurtured by them in his rise into the career of a statesman, he has preserved his manhood from the contamination of the mere politician. It were too much to say of any man, that he is above the weaknesses and frailties of our nature; but it is not too much to say of ANDREW JOHNSON, that in political integrity he stands amongst the present generation of fanatics and self-seekers like SAUL among the prophets. We may not, as we have not in the past, agree with him in all things; but in this crisis of "the nations life," in this momentous peril to constitutional government, he is the best hope of the Republic. If he fails us, or is beaten down, republican government is at an end. In place of the Constitution, we shall have the carving will of a Congressional Oligarchy, to be substituted, in its turn, by the absolution of empire under some strong hand that may rise up to curb the violence of faction.

With the people of the North and the North-West rests the determination of how this second war for the preservation of the Union shall end. We cannot believe that the brave men who fought to preserve it from the disintegration of southern secessionism, will see it perish under the parricidal hands of northern consolidationists. The responsibility of preserving their own republican liberties, as well as ours, rests with them. Should they rise in their majesty, and, by supporting the President, maintain the Union under the Constitution, theirs will indeed be a proud record of patriotic service.

☞ The Legislature of Virginia has appropriated the sum of ten thousand dollars for the relief of Mrs. Jackson, relict of the immortal Stonewall.

☞ The Judges of the Supreme Court have been in consultation on the constitutionality of the test oath, upon which there is a difference of opinion.

☞ The safe of the County Treasurer of Hancock County, at Greenfield, was broken open night before last, and robbed of sixteen thousand dollars. No arrests.

☞ Hon. A. S. Haskins, member of the House of Representatives from Marietta, Ohio, was found dead at his hotel in Logansport, Ind.

☞ The San Antonio Herald, of the third, says it was a mistake in reporting the arrival of Juarez from El Paso. It was Ortega who came.

☞ New Orleans, after the first of March, is to be lighted by three thousand petroleum lamps. The charges of the Gas Company are considered excessive.

☞ The Chicago *Republican*, of Saturday, is "sorry to learn that some instances of pocket picking and larceny have occurred at the revival prayer meetings" in that city.

☞ Dispatches from Springfield, Ill., give as the result of the late thaw and rains, the destruction of the several bridges over the Sangamon, swept away by the freshet.

☞ It is reported that the Reconstruction Committee intend sending for many Southern leaders, both Union and rebel, for the purpose of inquiring into the condition of the Southern States.

☞ Among the persons lost by the wreck of the steamship Constitution, was Capt. King, a well known pilot of Savannah. Capt. King leaves a wife and a large family to mourn his death.

☞ A telegram has been received from Iowa, stating that Hon. Jas. Harlan has been nominated by the Legislature for United States Senator for the term commencing in eighteen hundred and sixty-seven.

☞ A firm of distillers in Maitland, Canada, are on trial at Toronto, on a charge of swindling the Government out of one hundred and eighty thousand dollars, by smuggling whisky into the United States.

☞ The people of North Alabama and North Mississippi recently met in convention in the town of Iuka, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of building a railroad from that place to the Tennessee river.

☞ A Louisville policeman arrested a nigger, took his pistol away, and brought him before a magistrate. The next day the officer was brought before the Bureau, compelled to return the pistol, and pay two dollars fine.

☞ Edwin R. Hunter, the house agent, charged with having caused the death by suffocation, on Sunday last, of two members of the Gabey family, in New York, by stopping the chimney flue, has been admitted to bail in the sum of three thousand dollars.

☞ Pardon warrants were issued from the Attorney General's office, on Saturday, for Jesse Thompson, of Alabama, A. P. James and J. M. Dobis, of Tennessee, and S. N. Field, of Arkansas—all coming under the thirteenth exception.

☞ Dr. Everett, of New Orleans, claims to have invented a new telegraph requiring no insulators, batteries or poles. It is noticed approvingly by the *Bonapaste*, which says the apparatus is simple, the process easy, and the alphabet easily learned.

☞ Two colored boys quarreled recently, on Ellis street, Augusta, Ga., which resulted in one being very severely wounded by a ball from a large pistol in the hands of the other. The boy shot is not more than fifteen, and the other is about eighteen years old.

☞ We had the pleasure, yesterday, of meeting Maj. R. B. GORSACH, formerly Chief Engineer of the Nitre and Mining Bureau, in the district of Alabama. The Major is on his way to Mexico, where he had lived before the war, exercising his profession of civil engineer. He gives us some interesting facts about the country, for which we will find room at an early day. It takes but five days from New Orleans to reach Cordova, which has come to be a Mecca to many of us. The cost in gold of the trip will probably not exceed seventy-five dollars. Emigrants should take nothing but what is necessary for the trip, as, in the opinion of Maj. GORSACH, counting the cost of transportation, it would be a losing business. Take light baggage, and a little gold, and, hot for Cordova.

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From the Cincinnati Commercial.

THE BREAKING UP AT ST. LOUIS.

ST. LOUIS, JANUARY 15.

River matters are the all absorbing topic. At dark yesterday it was predicted it would break up before a half hour, but the grand breaking did not take place until half past ten o'clock at night.

There had been a rise in the stream during the day of three feet, which, passing under the ice field, burst it, with loud crashes into smaller fields, and these floating off and spinning heavily and slowly around in their courses, crushed, with a grinding sound, against the banks of the river, or jammed against the boats and water crafts at the levee, knocking holes in their sides, and submerging them where they lay.

The damages inflicted on the boats were serious, and materially lengthen the list of casualties.

As the field swept down it carried under the Belle Memphis, partially sunk yesterday, and the New Admiral and Calypso, partially sunk on the sixteenth, not a vestige of either of the three being visible. The Empire City also partially sunk on the sixteenth, is down to the bottom, only her texas being visible.

The Rosalie, Argonaut and Mollie McFlike were carried down and stranded on the bar opposite Arsenal Island, where they now lie in a comparatively safe position.

The Nebraska, which was breaking the ice yesterday, was carried against the bank near the front of Cherry street, in the start of five P. M., and when the ten o'clock rise came last night it stove in her starboard side, sinking her.

The ice struck the City of Pekin, a new stern wheel Illinois river packet, lying at the foot of Plum street, stove in and sunk her.

At the same time the barge Sardis was driven against the Gart Side, lying immediately below the City of Pekin, and sunk, an occurrence which undoubtedly saved the Gart Side.

The steamer Ed. Walsh, sidewheel, belonging to the Atlantic and Mississippi Steamship Company, lying at the docks, was carried away by the ten o'clock start, but she succeeded in re-ashing a safe landing below the city, without material damage.

The Mollie Able, belonging to the same company, was carried down, but was safely landed.

The barge Cincinnati and canal boat Baltimore were both sunk. The ferryboat John Trenholm, partially sunk yesterday, on the Illinois shore, was carried down by the ice. The ferryboat Charles Milligan, which was butting the ice yesterday, was carried down stream, but is supposed to be safe.

The Hattie May was sunk last night near the foot of Pine street, where she lies with the water over her guards, and received no one side.

The policemen on the levee report that at about eleven o'clock last night two large steamers came down with the ice from above the city. If the report is true, the boats are probably two of the Northern line packets which had been lying in the Alton slough.

The wharfboat of the Memphis Packet Company, lying at the foot of Chestnut street, which received a damaging out from the ice yesterday, received several more last night, which finished her. Her backbone is broken and bent down, while her bow and stern rear up before and behind.

The Mollie McPike was valued at fifty thousand dollars. She can be raised. The Hattie May, sunk at the foot of Pine street, is valued at thirty thousand dollars. She also can be raised. She belongs to parties at Portland, Me. She was insured for fifteen thousand dollars. The Reservoir, a stern wheel boat, valued at twenty-five thousand dollars, is reported sunk at the docks. The Nebraska, worth twenty thousand dollars, belonged to Mepham and Brother. She was, at the time of her disaster, in the employ of the Board of Underwriters, on whom the loss will fall. The Viola, Belle, and several barges are badly listed just below the sectional docks. The Montana, Paragon and Mary D. Forsyth remained at the wharf, and escaped. A number of boats lying at different points along the river were carried off, and their fates are at present unknown.

Summary.

Steamer Nebraska, value $20,000; steamer Hattie May, $30,000; steamer City of Pekin, $15,000; wharf boat, $15,000; steamer Mollie McPike, $30,000; steamer Belle Memphis, $35,000; steamer Warsaw, $15,000; steamer Prairie Rose, $15,000; ferry boat John Trenholm, $35,000; steamer Submarine, $28,000; barges, flats, etc., $25,000. Total, $265,000, of which about two-third are insured.

All the damage that can be done has been done. The river is now clear and open; the ice is running out rapidly.

The owners of boats that have escaped, are preparing to bring them to the levee to receive freight, and in a few days we shall have such a resumption of navigation as the crippled condition of the boats will allow.

From the Panola Office Star.

MURDER AND ROBBERY.

On the fifth of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, Mr. Chambles found the bodies of two murdered men on the plantation of W. S. Jones, deceased, now occupied by Mr. A. N. Bishop, and a mile and a half from his residence, on the road from Panola to Oxford, Miss. A jury of inquest was summoned and the following facts elicited: On the second instant, two peddlers, driving an ambulance with two dark bay mares, called at the plantation of Mr. Avent, in the neighborhood, and had some jewelry to exchange, and drove on through the bottom in the direction of Mr. Bishop's. On the morning of the third the two mares were found on the premises of Mr. W. C. Russell, without harness on, except the bridles. The freedmen saw three well dressed strangers, who looked like men from Memphis, on good horses, pass by the shop on Mr. Avent's plantation, shortly after the pedlars left, and going in the same direction. From the blood on the front part of the ambulance and wheels, it is supposed that the peddlers were shot while sitting on the seat. One was shot through the head and breast, the other through the head, neck and shoulders; one of them is supposed to be thirty or forty years of age, and the other eighteen or twenty. Both had on suits of dark winter clothing. The horses had been unharnessed and turned loose. Two trunks and one jewelry box were found in the ambulance, all broken open, and the jewelry scattered upon the ground. The clothing in the trunks appeared to have been disturbed. Nothing was found on the persons or trunks indicating what their names were. They had some cards of Moriz Wolf, agent, wholesale dealer in wines, liquors, segars and tobacco, No. 178 Front street, Memphis, Tenn. Also, a card of Stern Brothers, boots and shoes, No. 33 Magazine street, New Orleans. On the back of this last card, the name of H. Wolf, was written in pencil. They were buried where they were found, and the horses, ambulance, and other property taken charge of by Mr. A. N. Bishop, who is ready to turn them over on proper authority.

Late in the evening of the second, three men, corresponding in dress and appearance with those seen, were first noticed coming out of the river bottom, through the plantation of Mr. Bishop, and at dark they were at the residence of Mr. F. M. Fitch, inquiring of freedmen the road to Belmont. They appeared to be uneasy, and kept their hats over their faces as much as possible. Some person in the house walked across the passage, making some noise, when they rode off without waiting for the answer about the road. W. H. Johnson, Justice of the Peace, says that the above statement is in accordance with the evidence elicited before him.

☞ George L. Little, a special agent of the Treasury Department, recently returned from an extensive tour through the South, reports that he finds as much money in the hands of Southern men now as was ever before possessed by them. Northern speculators are numerous in the South, and are purchasing largely of the Southern staples, as well as of landed property, thus placing in the hands of the people immense amounts of ready money.

☞ Smuggling between Switzerland and France is reduced to a science. You buy a watch at Geneva, of a watchmaker. He asks you: "Will you take it with you, or shall we deliver it at Paris?" If you answer that you prefer it delivered at Paris, he gives you a code with which, when you arrive at Paris, you go to an appointed place and receive your watch, as innocent of the payment of the duty as when it left the goldsmith's hand at Geneva.

☞ Massachusetts has a school ship named the Massachusetts, on board of which are several hundred boys at sea, doing good service, who have been placed on board for offences committed. It is deemed better than sending them to a Reform School. The State has lately bought a second school ship. She is fitted up with a school room, mess room, etc., and everything provided for teaching navigation.

☞ A letter from San Antonio, Texas, says the Government camels, the descendants of the herd imported some fifteen years ago from Egypt, excite the curiosity of strangers. They number about seventy, are all sizes and ages, some still unweaned. Only seven of the original lot are alive.

☞ We learn that Mr. H. J. Darby was accidentally shot by Col. S. W. Thomas, of the late Tenth Tennessee Infantry, Confederate States Army, while out gunning near Florence, Ala., a few days since, and died on the following day.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

Important Communications from the Lieutenant-General

WASHINGTON, January 14.

Gen. Grant has sent to both the Senate and House Committees on Military Affairs a very important communication in regard to an increase of the regular army, accompanied by the reports from the Paymaster General's Department, Quartermaster and Commissary Departments, the Engineer Department and Cavalry Bureau, suggesting what each of the departments will require in case an increase of the regular army is adopted by the Committees. The suggestions contained in Gen. Grant's communications are essentially different from the bill prepared by Senator Wilson. The authority for raising colored regiments he proposes to place in the hands of the President. It is doubtful whether the Committees will leave this matter to the President, but Gen. Grant thinks it should be left to his discretion.

The Collectors' Convention.

The collectors who have been in session for upwards of a week, for the purpose of arranging some kind of legislation to put a stop to smuggling on the Canadian frontier and the Northern lakes, have prepared a bill which the secretary will immediately introduce in Congress. The present law is wholly defective and useless. The new one is very stringent, especially when the smugglers are caught with their property.

They also recommend to the Secretary a modification of the present laws respecting coasting and lake trade. It is hoped by the Collectors that the Government is defrauded every year out of large amounts of money by the loose manner in which the laws are enforced.

The Financial Bill.

A special meeting was held yesterday by the Ways and Means Committee for the purpose of deciding upon Secretary McCulloch's Financial Bill, so as to report it to-morrow. They came to no final determination, and will meet again in the morning. There is considerable doubt in the minds of the Committee in regard to that feature allowing the Secretary to issue sterling bonds for the European market, but as the Secretary insists upon it, the Committee will probably report it to the House, and let that body take such action in the matter as they think proper.

Change in Command.

Gen. R. R. Scott, of Ohio, has been ordered to South Carolina to relieve Gen. Sickles, who has been in charge of the Freedmen's Bureau. The President has mustered out Sickles, not having any further use for him.

Important Developments.

The information called for by Congress respecting any information in possession of the Government about the Maximilian Expose Company, will show a rather singular state of things, which, it is said, will be very damaging to several parties occupying important positions under the Government. It appears that ourselves and I have good assurance they will assist us. (Cheers were given for President Johnson and Mr. Mitchel.)

Mr. Meany said that Mr. Roberts had taken on himself the credit of effecting the negotiation for John Mitchel's release. All he had to do with it was to read the resolution to President Johnson, thanking him for releasing Mr. Mitchel.

A Voice—Who wrote the resolution?

Mr. Killian, in reply, stated Mr. Roberts wrote it in the White House as I dictated it to him. (Laughter.)

Mr. Griffin, of Indiana, stated that he knew himself that the whole merit of negotiating Mr. Mitchel's release was due to Mr. Killian.

Mr. Rogers being called on, delivered a telling, eloquent and appropriate speech.

The House adjourned *sine die*.

☞ Ben. C. Truman, correspondent of the New York *Times*, writing from Nashville, Tenn., says:

Go where you will in this State, and meet whom you will, with a few exceptions, and you will discover a feeling of aversion for Gov. Brownlow. This feeling seems to exist to a great extent among the radicals and those who have been loyal throughout the great struggle. The conservative classes, those who have been law and order men all the time, have no sympathy with the Governor; while those who have been more as secessionists look upon him as their evil genius. I do not concur much with the ideas of this latter class, at least where they condemn Gov. Brownlow, and especially as I have always been on the most intimate terms of friendship with his Excellency. I felt it my duty to seek for information among those who have ever been steadfast friends of Andrew Johnson and the Union, and I find among these very same steadfast friends above referred to, a spirit of disgust and dislike for the Governor.

☞ There was a thrilling scene reported in the Fenian Congress during the "nipping and eager air" of Monday last, when President O'Mahony came in and said:

"*Mr Chairman and Gentlemen:* A report has appeared in the evening papers, which, if true, should unite us all as one man and make throb our hearts with joy, one with us in the cause of Ireland. That report is that our brothers in Ireland are fighting and have won their first battle."

The statement in the House that followed has never perhaps been equaled. All rose and cheered, some wildly flung their hats against the ceiling, others shouted now with