The Burlington Free Press.

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Poetry.

THE SUPERFLUOUS MAN.

[illegible]

Miscellaneous.

[illegible]

MARY ALLEN OF BRISTOL.—Mary Allen's letter comes to us [illegible] one of the [illegible] for the Soldiers' company. [illegible] and returned to Scituate in 1774 [illegible] to leave his family here, but being [illegible] circumstances he tarried some [illegible] and died in 1781. Some of the family came to Hyegate the next year, including Mary and her mother. As [illegible] she would stay in Hyegate. Mary, although the youngest child of the family, [illegible] a woman manager, [illegible] Possessing great [illegible] and [illegible] character she [illegible] herself equal to the task, working out doors and in her [illegible] the family. She married Captain Gray [illegible] and died in [illegible]. She frequently went home after her husband's death [illegible] was [illegible] to see that her mother was properly cared for. A few years after some dispute arose in regard to the occupancy of the farm. A new suit had commenced, and before the first trial could be had it was [illegible] that a written instrument should be got from her [illegible] John, who was then in New York. Writing as long as she dared to and getting no satisfactory answer from her brother, she started, that long journey in [illegible], without a guide or protector, many miles of the journey through a wilderness country. She got to New York, but the papers made as she desired, and would have returned in good season, had it not been for a drenching rain which lasted several days. But let what would come, Mary passed through thick and thin, although there was not a dry thread on either horse or rider except in Mary's shoe, where she carried the papers; and after almost wading through the storm, she arrived in Eyegate just in time to save her case, to the relief of her mother and the astonishment of her lawyer. Mary gained her case then, and always has since, which is the result of her indomitable energy and unflinching perseverance. She married Thomas Nelson of [illegible] He was a sickly man for [illegible] She again proved herself equal to the emergency, managing the work of the farm and farm with singular prudence [illegible] They had 12 children. Thomas, [illegible] was a Major of the 3d Vt. Vols., and [illegible] presented a gold watch, as a token of regard from his brother officers, for his bravery in the New York riots, and in quelling a mutiny among the recruits in New Jersey. He was born in 1781, and is now [illegible] with the pilgrims in their life, with the pilgrims in their sleep, will be gently led through Death's valley, and will wake up in the morning in the image of God. Blessed of my Father, [illegible]

[illegible]

The Free Press.

BURLINGTON

FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 15, 1864.

GOV. SEYMOUR'S MESSAGE.

A remarkable document indeed is the message of Gov. Seymour of New York to the Legislature just assembled. We refer particularly to that large part of it relating to national affairs—which from beginning to end is as odorous of the copperhead as any den of those venomous creatures in the rocks of the Palisades. Opposition to the National Administration and all its measures, misstatement of its avowed purposes, flagrant misrepresentation of fact, and half truths told in such a way as to produce on the careless reader the effect of entire falsehoods, and an evident desire to embarrass the operations of the national government by unmerited fault finding, are its characteristics. Small encouragement do the gallant soldiers of New York, battling to save their country from destruction by the rebellion, get from our Governor. In fact one has to look sharp in reading the message to learn from it that he is anxious to do any thing in relation to rebellion at present. Only a casual word or two on the subject. As for any hearty support of the rebellion of the leaders of his party, or even a willing of the rest to the message. A stranger from the planet might suppose there was some pretty serious trouble in connect in the land, which has been the occasion for the use of considerable money and that the National Administration could not exhibit it anything that would tend to the purpose of crushing the rebellion and establishing a dependence of the rebels—and that would be no at all. It is a sad sight to see such an article from the Governor of one of the free States of the Union.

New Hampshire Republican State Convention.

NOMINATION OF GOV. GILMORE

HE THAT LINCOLN PACKED THE CABINET OF THE PEOPLE FOR THE NEXT PRESIDENCY.

The Republican Convention of the year of the Presidential canvass, took place at Concord N. H., on which Gov. Gilmore was nominated by acclamation for re-election and the following resolution was received with thunders of applause, delegates rising to their feet and waving their hats with the wildest enthusiasm:

Resolved, That Abraham Lincoln, in the exigencies during the severest trials and most dangerous crises in the nation's history, of unequaled sagacity and statesmanship, of a moderation and prudence which experience has shown to be the highest wisdom, by his spotless integrity of personal character, above reproach, and above suspicion, and by his slowly formed yet unalterable determination, that the triumph of the Constitution and Union over secession and treason shall be the final triumph of liberty throughout the nation, has received and merited the abiding confidence of the people to an extent never awarded to any other public man since Washington; that the best interests of the country demand that the complete destruction of the rebellion and the restoration of peace, prosperity and the Union should be achieved under his administration of the Government, and that we therefore declare Abraham Lincoln to be the People's choice for re-election to the Presidency in 1864.

Bishop Hopkins Again.

The Philadelphia *Age* contains a long letter from Bishop Hopkins of this place to Rev. Dr. Howe of Philadelphia, on the subject of an article by the latter giving reasons for the famous protest of Bishop Potter and sundry Episcopal clergymen of Pennsylvania. Much of the letter is occupied with a discussion of the personal and ecclesiastical relations of the two gentlemen, with which we care not to concern ourselves or our readers. So much of it as refers to what the Bishop said on the subject of secession in his letter of Jan. 1861, and to the reference to it by Dr. Howe, is of more general interest; and many will be glad to see what the Bishop himself says on that matter at the present time. For this purpose the following extract from his letter to Dr. Howe will suffice.

Referring to his remark in Jan. 1861, that he thought the Southern States had a right to secede, he says:

"Now, my Rev. Brother, although I insist that you had no right whatever to bring up this question in your statement of the reasons for your protest, with which it had nothing to do, yet you must not suppose that I am either afraid or ashamed to acknowledge the authorship of that little sentence. But it was written two months before the attack upon Fort Sumter, which was the real commencement of this lamentable question. It was written while President Buchanan was still in office, while Congress was in session, and no one could anticipate what course our Government would pursue in reference to this alarming position of our country. At that time the question was *an open one*, and every man had a right to suggest what he deemed the best and wisest mode of dealing with it. As a lover of peace and unity, I was anxious to give it a *legal direction*, in order to avert the horrors and calamities of an awful civil war, the result of which it was impossible to conjecture. And, therefore, I said in that letter that the right of secession was a new and difficult subject, on which men might differ; that my own opinion was in favor of the right to secede; but that it was a *constitutional question which belonged to the Supreme Court of the United States* to decide, and to that tribunal it ought to be submitted. My sole object was to secure an interval for thorough judicial examination, and to guard both parties, if possible, against the dangers of hasty and passionate action under those moral and exciting circumstances. I believed that if this course were taken, along with a kind conciliation towards the southern States, the spirit of secession would probably die out in a very short time, and the Union be peacably restored to its integrity. I knew that the opinion which I had expressed as to the right of secession was in accordance with the opinion not only of the Southern leaders, but of many northern and western statesmen of high character.

Especially I knew that it was the doctrine of the Hon. Josiah Quincy, and other distinguished men of Massachusetts, at the time of the famous Hartford Convention; of the Hon. Abraham Lincoln, on the floor of Congress, in 1848; and of the Hon. Horace Greeley in the *Tribune*, after the Southern course had been decided. Nevertheless I held that the *political right* to secede, and the *wisdom or prudence of the act of secession*, were very different things. I lamented the act as much as any one; and if I had lived at the South, I should have contended against it with all my power, as *unnecessary, impolitic and dangerous*. And to prove the spirit in which I wrote, I shall quote from the same letter the paragraph which concluded my argument:

"Such are my sentiments, and I state them frankly and fully, as a sincere though unworthy servant of the Prince of Peace, and a faithful *friend and advocate of the Union*. It is not the Union which has, under Divine favor, raised us to a position of commanding influence and honor among the nations of the world and the stars of the Union which has led our every one and more to victory. The heroes and patriots of the Revolution saw there fully presumptuous to the grand result which formed the Union, and no consideration of independent States would have induced their names on the pay or history with half the fame which the glorious Union has conferred upon their memory—all this is felt and acknowledged throughout the land. It enters into the training of all our schools, every child, east and west, north and south, is inoculated from his birth with the same love and admiration for the Union; and even if our Southern brethren should be allowed to secede in peace, and should succeed in forming another Republic with prosperity and honor, it seems to my mind impossible that they could reign that older and nobler Union without a deep yearning of the heart, which would fill them with regret and sorrow."

Now here is the whole story, of which you took care to give only one little and obnoxious part, entirely ignoring the spirit and intention with which it was written—and you may make the most of it.

I aver that it was no crime, no unnecessary, much less a sin, worthy of "indignant reproduction," in a minister of Christ to counsel moderation, forbearance, and kindness at the beginning of our national troubles, under the belief that these were the best means to reform unity and concord, and to avoid the horrors, the bloodshed, and possibly the ultimate ruin consequent upon a rebellion and cruel civil war. I aver that it is the primary duty of my sacred office to proclaim "Peace, good will to men."

I aver that the office of Episcopal consecration bound me to this duty, for this is one of the questions put by the church, "Will you minister and set forward, as much as shall be in you, quietness, love and peace among all men?" and to this the candidate is required to answer, "I will do so by the help of God."

This duty I endeavored to fulfill to the extent of my poor ability. It was the only object that I could have had in view, because, as a Northern man, who had no family connexions, no interest, and no personal sympathies with the institution established in the South, it is simply absurd to suppose that I could have had any other.

For such I my Rev. Brother, all this was done, as I have said, in January, 1861, while the question was still open, and before the Peace Congress had met to propose their plan of adjustment. When the war commenced, when Congress undertook the office of the Supreme Court by deciding on the fundamental point of secession, and when the course of our Administration was made known, I supposed as a generally received, whatever my private opinions might be; and I defy you or any one else to lay your hand upon a single line published by me or by my authority since that time in opposition to the policy of our Government."

We cannot see that the Bishop's position is essentially improved by his explanation. Neither, probably, has anyone that he proposed "a divided country to a united one on the new position of the slave-holders." But the bare assertion that "in a struggle between slavery and the Union, he has given his influence and that of his official position to the side of slavery." In the "American Citizen" he defended slavery while it was on the aggressive, and striking boldly at enlightened extension and control of the Nation. He resumed his defense of slavery in his "Bible view", after the slave power had come into actual collision with the government, and defied its authority, and even in time to nullify the constitution, and he seized to it. Then an expression in favor of the right of Secession. After two years of war, begun by the South, as avowed by the vice president of the confederacy, without infringement of their rights, and waged to establish a separate union on the corner-stone of slavery, after a fearful outlay of blood and treasure for the preservation of the government and of the most critical period of the contest, while the northern office of the rebels were organizing treason and preparing notes as a greeting for Lee's victorious, as they hoped it would be, army on its northern march, the Bishop furnishes a copy of his defence of slavery, for republication, to a committee of copperhead politicians,—one or two of them members, one of them if we mistake not the Chairman, of the Copperhead Democratic State Committee of Pennsylvania—to be used as they pleased, to extend a sound public opinion "on the subject, and which was used as a campaign document, to aid the side for the success of which every rebel was praying,—the side whose success would have been better for them than a dozen victories in the field. And now while slavery is in its deathforce; when the best and wisest citizens of the border Slave States are working for its entire extinction, and the enlightened christian sentiment of the *World* is watching and applauding their progress, the Bishop is, we be announces, preparing a formidable book in which he will still pile up authorities and sanctions for slavery.

It is fair to add that the Bishop declared he did not know the Pennsylvania man who asked him for his letter, as politicians, and that he did not know the letter was to be used as a campaign document. But he certainly and without a great exercise of penetration, *might*. Have known these things, and with due deference we must say he ought to have known them.

The Bishop also withdrew his declaration of the *right* of secession, and does not now reassert it. That he has changed his views on that point does not appear. Indeed he still defends his assertion of that right in a paragraph which can to much honor of the politician if not of the christian teacher. A defence of the assertion of the right of secession, by the example of the members of Hartford Convention, is entirely worthy of the man who defends American slavery by the example of Abraham.

Whether the references to what Josiah Quincy may have said fifty years ago, or Abraham Lincoln may have said fifteen years ago, are just, or are merely a use of apostolical representations of their language by unscrupulous partisans, we do not stop to inquire in this place.

The Bishop resolutely disclaims the position of a politician, and insists upon it that he wrote, both in 1861 and in 1863, for no political purpose whatever. Since he says so, we cannot doubt that he thinks so; but we would like to ask him for what earthly purpose he supposed his opinions on slavery and secession, or on slavery alone, were wanted by those who solicited them. Were not these two matters (slavery and secession) the very things which were embroiling the political world of our country? Did he really suppose that the interests of "pure and undefiled religion" were what the New York and Philadelphia men were burying themselves with, when they solicited the aid of his pen?

The Bishop, in the extract we have quoted above, and in his letter of Jan. 1861, throws the question of the right of secession to be one which is belonged to the Supreme Court to decide. We suspect nobody will dispute with him the originality of that opinion. The judge that it is by the Constitution of the United States put within the province of any court or any man to determine whether the nation shall maintain its organic life, or crumble into fragments at the fist of the separate States. If the Chancellor of Go. to Resident and statesmen who at any time may chance to control them, is as absurd a one as we remember to have seen put forth by any rational man.

Finally the Bishop, as he avers, and we unreservedly do not deny, is a friend of the Union. Let that be understood. He is a friend of the Union, and of the institution which alone has cancelled the Union. He has a friendship of the Union, and of the system and "United States" of the rebellion. He is the advocate of the Union, and of Southern Slavery—going to the aid in defense of both, and to the last extent, pamphlets and books.

THE CASE OF SEVERAL BANKS.—The Republicans State Committee of New Hampshire, gave Senator John P. Hale a strong rap by passing a resolution declaring it was the people of New Hampshire will unite with loyal citizens of the whole country in rebuking, from all public services, infidelity, tyranny and treason in any quarter of our country.

In a letter to Hon. Geo. Hale, Mr. Pomeroy delivered, and public opinion generally will hold the resolution. The Washington correspondent of the *Springfield Republican* talks now Mr. Hale's connexion with the Senate, as follows:

Speaking of Senator Hale brings up one topic of interest. I hear that the publication of his letter will expel him at any intolerable date. This is probably true, and I have not a doubt that Mr. Hale is innocent of a wrong intent. In point of fact it was precisely what he says it was, a letter to his constituents, stating only what he was doing, and forwarding the newspapers. There was the blunder. There are some things that a member of Congress must not do, or at least must not be detected in doing, and one of them are things that a lawyer may do with impunity. Perhaps they are not in the character of his office, but the senator must not forget his exalted position. The strong point made against Mr. Hale is that he intended the letter for the senatorial constituents, and not for the constituents as a lawyer. Very nicely indeed, the Senate is not going to disgrace Mr. Hale. It will instead pass a gentle law upon the subject that will be as well as a rule in the future.

A resolution that any propositions from the rebels for negotiation to reduce rebellion, should be at once rejected, was passed by the House on Tuesday, yeas 106 to 38 (?)

We have seen no intelligent one that any such proposition will be made. The rebel leaders cannot, and long ago determined to have no peace but that of complete success, claiming to control at least a majority of the people of the United States.

The rebel leaders are actually sanguine of prevailing the northern, upon the subject and the success of the latter success is rather looking also than this. They will hardly think of offering to a peace that could only be obtained by their unconditional surrender. Their purchase so far cannot be underlying power, and had their hopes for the peace, compromise can not possibly be deserted to our side.

When Jeff. Davis first proposed to end the war that the country, there may be a ray for peace on the rebel side.

A CHEAP INCORPORATION CO.—The annual meeting of the Chamberlin Company was held Tuesday afternoon. The following gentlemen were chosen Directors for the ensuing year:

Leland Stanford, Burlington; Oscar A. Barnum, Burlington; Albert L. Cattle, Burlington; Vernon F. Negus, Burlington; Silas E. Howard, Burlington; L. H. Tupper, Troy, N. Y.; J. M. Dodge, Saratoga, N. Y.

Mr. Tupper declining re-election, Le Grand B. Cannon was chosen President—Thomas H. Canfield was re-elected Clerk, Treasurer, and General Superintendent.

A PERSONAL ITEM.—Burlington is a place of some correspondence. The letters mailed at the Post Office here during the quarter ending Dec. 31st, 1863, numbered 40,024, while on counting those sent here for distribution, which would carry the total to over 60,000.

SUPREME COURT.

January term.

The parties brought before the Court yesterday on various charges were discharged from custody. The prisoners offered by whom they were indicted, called by the authority of the State.

The following cases have been heard:

N. F. Flanagan vs. Wm. H. Hoyt. Hard for pl'ff. Underwood for def't.

Wm. Fidson vs. Town of Underhill.—French and Edmunds for pl'ff. Roberts for def't.

Henry H. Catlin vs. Merchants Bank, (two cases, argued at the same time.) Roberts for plaintiff. Edmunds for defendant.

January 9.

The following were argued

State vs. John Kennedy, and *State vs. Edward Brown*. Tall for the State, French for respondents.

L. F. Thompson vs. J. W. Hichok. Phelps and Shaw for plaintiff, Roberts for defendant.

Nicholas Holmes vs. Andrew Holmes, Administrator. Edmunds for plaintiff, Phelps for defendant.

Two petitions for divorce have been granted as follows:

Martha Dodge vs. Jos. Dodge. Cause intolerable severity. Defendant defaulted. Decree:—that defendant pay to the petitioner $1000 as alimony,—$250 to be paid in 60 days—$250 in one year—and $500 in two years from the rising of the Court, and the payment of these sums is made a lien upon the real estate of the defendant. M. O. Heath, counsel for Petitioner.

Melinda M. Eddy vs. Wm. M. Eddy. Bill of divorce granted for wilful desertion and custody of minor children granted to petitioner.

Eight petitions for divorce stand on the docket for adjudication.

Jan. 11.

The Court adjourned *sine die* this morning.

Divorces were granted between the following parties, (the petitioner being named first).

Henry T. Bull and Hero M. Bull. Cause Adultery of the wife. S. Wires, petitioner's counsel.

Wm. Cooper and Fanny Jenette Cooper. Cause Adultery. E. H. Hall for petitioner.

Francis Juliette Gaines and Chauncey H. Gaines. Cause wilful desertion. E. H. Hall for petitioner.

Harriet A. Fletcher and Elizabeth Fletcher. Cause wilful desertion. Wales and Tyler for petitioner.

The following petitions for Divorce are continued to the next term of Court—Jan. 1865:

Caroline L. Carpenter vs. Thomas J. Carpenter.

John Upham, Jr., vs. Ellen E. Upham.

John Farrell vs. Catherine Farrell.

The judgment of the County Court was affirmed in the following cases:

Farmers' & Mechanics' Bank vs. Dunsmore & Albany Adams vs. Town of Waitsfield; Dorion Newmans Bank vs. Brooks; Riley vs. University of Vermont.

In *State vs. Rowe*, the information was taken out court only, charging the respondent with "selling, furnishing and giving away" intoxicating liquors. The information was held to be good on demurrer.

The judgment of the County Court was reversed in the following cases:

Lamoille Co. Bank vs. Morse; *Adams vs. Flanagan*; *Adams vs. Jewett*; *Franklin vs. Humphrey*; *Flanagan vs. Hoyt*; *Folsom vs. Underwood*; *State vs. Kennedy*.

In *State vs. Kennedy*, the information was at the term. The decision was held and the case not considered in this Court.

The following cases are retained for further consideration: *Gray vs. Hawkins*; *Warner vs. Warner*; *Thompson vs. Wilder*; *Hebard vs. Hebard*.

SERIOUS FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE AT BRATTLEBORO.—Early yesterday morning a fire broke out in Crowley's store, which was soon fully enveloped in flames, and spread to Holbrook's block, adjoining, which was also destroyed. A carpenter named Wilson was killed by the falling of the building, and Jerome Wilson, a young man, was so badly burned that he died in a few hours after. The loss is about $15,000, with little insurance.

[illegible]

Thirty-Eighth Congress.—First Session.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.

SENATE.—Mr. Howard's resolution that the committee on the judiciary consider the propriety of repealing the joint resolution of July 17th, 1862, which provides a forfeiture of real estate beyond the actual life of the offender, was adopted.

Mr. Howe of Wis. offered a resolution that the President of the United States be requested to call out a million of volunteers for 90 days, in every township in every county in the rebel States, and that Gen. Grant be assigned to the command of said troops, subject to the military orders that may be issued to be printed.

The bill for increasing the bounties to soldiers was taken up, and, on motion of Mr. Fessenden, referred to the committee on finance, with the understanding that it should be early reported.

Mr. Wilson moved to take up the bill enrolling the national force.

The Senate proceeded to act upon the amendments of the military committee, which were all adopted except section 20, repealing the State commutation clause, which will be considered tomorrow.

Mr. Doolittle opposed the 4th section of the enrollment bill providing for the furnishing of substitutes. He doubted that the Secretary of War had any power to remit any portion of the time of the veteran soldiers, and he (Doolittle) thought it an act of injustice to the country. He thought he had explained for the term of three years.

Mr. Wilson replied that the veterans were mustered into service for three years, unless sooner discharged.

HOUSE.—Mr. Spaulding introduced a bill to exempt from personal postage government stamps, which, on motion, was referred to the committee.

Mr. Julian of Ind. offered a preamble and resolution that the emancipation proclamation having no legal force in Rebel States in defiance of the letter of the Constitution and has no claim to be treated as a law, therefore

Resolved, That any proposition or negotiation with the rebels ought to be rejected without hesitation or delay.

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 85 to 21.

The preamble was then agreed to unanimously.

Mr. Rogers of N. J. offered a resolution declaring for a vigorous prosecution of the war, but at the same time asking for peace, conciliation and compromise, so far as consistent with honor, and most earnestly recommending the appointment of the President and the Senate to a commission of three to Richmond in order that this war may be brought to an honorable close.

Mr. Pike of Me. moved to lay the resolution on the table by a vote of 77 to 21.

Mr. Blaine of Me. introduced a bill providing for the creation of a navy yard and dry dock on the Penobscot River, and appropriating $100,000 for the purpose, referred to committee on naval affairs.

Mr. Spaulding offered a resolution that Congress has no right to bring to more passion except where loyalty disorder, all constituent exercises as well as treason, and that the war of rebellion against national rebels, in extraordinary it is and capable of conviction should be waged on our part with zeal which the Union, are called upon to do, and that the President and Congress of the U. S. will take the sense of the country, of submission to the emancipation proclamation, and the proclamation of liberty to all, and when these objects are accomplished the loyal people should be hailed and the rebel states offered to the committee on reconstruction of states.

Mr. Blaine from the committee of the whole on the military and diplomatic appropriation bill, reported back the bill with the amendments made in Committee of the Whole, and moved the adoption of the amendments.

Mr. Spaulding introduced resolutions of thanks to Gen. Burnside, his officers and men.

Mr. Blair moved the recommitment of the diplomatic appropriation bill with instructions to strike out the clause providing for the payment of the expenses of transporting supplies and troops for the use of the department generally, and the clause for the payment of the expenses of the transportation of troops and supplies.

Mr. Odell said that the Secretary of the Navy informed the committee. He had no doubt it would turn out that we have not only for last year more than any other nation in the world.

Mr. Grinnell hoped that Mr. Blair would modify his resolution so as to confine the investigation to the transportation.

Mr. Hale said on behalf of the Navy Department had paid very much higher for supplies than they could or had a right to be satisfied.

Mr. Grinnell stated that this was the fault of Congress requiring supplies to be procured by contract from the lowest bidder.

The further consideration was postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. Wilson introduced a resolution providing for the expulsion of Senator Davis of Ky., owing to the sentiments put forth in a recent resolution by the latter, which, in the opinion of Mr. Wilson, incites the people to treason, also insurrection and rebellion. Stripped of its verbiage, this, Mr. Wilson said, was the purpose of the resolution.

Mr. Davis explained to the Senate that the language quoted in Mr. Wilson's resolution was a garbled version of his own resolution. What he (Davis) proposed was that the people should vote at the polls and take the power of this government into their own hands.

The subject was then passed over and the Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to amendment of the enrollment act. Debate followed on the $300 commutation clause, during which Mr. Lane of Ind. advised the repeal.

Mr. Wilson opposed striking it out, and believed the government would sustain him. He believed the term of service ought to be reduced from three years to eighteen months.

After Executive session, adjourned.

The quota of Indiana has been raised by volunteering.

The Treasury Department will carry into effect a plan for relieving the many destitute families within our army lines. J. H. Shenkler, a loyal citizen of Stafford County, has been appointed a trade agent to send to the destitute population provisions, clothing, and other necessaries of life. The rule adopted is that any person observing supplies most present an order to the Provost Marshal General, accompanied by an affidavit of the number in their families to be supplied, and that the supplies desired are not for and will not be furnished to any person or persons engaged in hostilities against the United States. The order must be accompanied by the money, to compensate the trade agent against loss by guerrillas or scouting parties of the enemy, &c.

The benefits of this arrangements will be extended from the defences of Washington to the Rapidan, and from the Blue Ridge northward to the peninsula formed by the Potomac and Rappahannock, as far as can be done with safety.

An officer of the Government, just arrived from Newbern, N. C., reports that the system for the occupation of abandoned plantations works admirably; those rented already producing quite a revenue, besides relieving the Government of the support of thousands of poor people both white and colored.

Gen. Butler's call for negro cavalry created much enthusiasm, and the second regiment now forming was receiving over 100 recruits a week.

In addition to the two regiments of colored cavalry raised by Gen. Butler, a light battery is also being organized, which is rapidly filling up.

In the vicinity of Norfolk the secessionists are returning, under the recent proclamation of amnesty, to claim their houses and land.

The Great Snow and Severe Frost at the West.

The Chicago *Tribune* of Monday devotes seven columns to an account of the blocking snow storm and intensely cold weather which have been experienced in all the Western States. The railroads were blocked in every direction, many trains being stopped midway of their journey, and the passengers compelled to get out in the drifting snow [illegible] Michigan Central [illegible] miles from Chicago. The Cleveland *Herald* gives the following summary of the sufferings of the passengers:

"The cars on that road are provided with patent stoves, which [illegible] when the cars are in motion, and consequently when the train stopped the fires went out. The weather was intensely cold, the thermometer being [illegible] degrees below zero, and the sufferings of the passengers became intense, particularly those of the women and children.

They lay there from Thursday afternoon till Friday morning, when a train on the Michigan Southern road arrived, which [illegible] Kalamazoo, and could proceed no further. Expresses were immediately sent to Chicago for engines to the Michigan Southern cars, [illegible] warrants could be procured. A period [illegible] occurred, passengers fearing they would be [illegible] Many of the women and children were unable to help themselves, and to be carried from [illegible] to the other. They remained on the Michigan Southern cars till Saturday night, suffering from cold and want of food. They were badly taken care of by the conductors and carried to Chicago.

There were some frozen to death, but large numbers were badly frost-bitten; some [illegible] and they will lose their hands or feet. The officers of both trains did every thing that could possibly be done under the circumstances for the comfort of passengers, and the two conductors are thought to be so badly frozen that they will never get over it.

It was impossible to do any thing to relieve the trains from the blockade, as no human being could stand the severity of the extreme cold for more than a minute or two without becoming nearly benumbed."

A dispatch to the Chicago *Tribune* from St. Louis states that on the North Missouri Railroad 10,000 logs have frozen to death, and an immense number of cattle have frozen all along the railroads. In the city several persons have died from a similar cause, and the sufferings of the poor reported to the authorities surpass belief. In Wisconsin trains were helped in by snow drifts and remained for hours unable to move. At Madison, on the 24, the mercury was 32 degrees below zero. At Camp Randall the mercury [illegible] became exhausted, and a large number of soldiers were badly frozen. At Oshkosh the mercury fell to 28 below zero, one women was frozen to death, and many limbs and feet were amputated. At Milwaukee the thermometer ranged from 20 to [illegible] degrees below zero, with a driving wind intolerable to encounter. Emigrants, in search of work are immovable, and many persons were picked up insensible on the streets. Feet and legs were frozen while going between beds. Many employers in the city [illegible] were badly frozen and crippled for life, and [illegible] was entirely suspended.

At Sheboygan, Wis., all mills of manufacture and trade were suspended, which [illegible] failing almost in several cities. The mercury [illegible] at Chicago [illegible] at Milwaukee [illegible] Dispatches of similar import come from points in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Indiana, Iowa and Wisconsin to the effect that, during the month of January, the mercury has been in some instances 12° below.

Of the whole generally for Tuesday morning, "from the eastern boundary of Ohio with places of Kansas, from the extreme north to all points to the southern limits of Michigan and Wisconsin, the storm has raged in unmitigated fury. The wind appears to have been in the Northwest and has been heard alone for its violations. Like the sirocco of the desert it has taken in its broad sweep almost a continent, and devastation is marked its course. On the level prairies of Illinois the storm has held truly carnival, and nature's forces appeared to check its progress. It has heeded all, before it is one full sweep. For days—perhaps weeks—the sad record will come with company accounts, as they gleam amidst scenes of the regular line of railroad and telegraph communication is the details will arrive.

Scores, perhaps hundreds of persons will have been lost, their property destroyed, and their homes left desolate. Never since the bitter cold and storms of the winters of 1854-'55 and 1855-'56 have we experienced a storm anything like that whose fury has just been expended. Indeed it has surpassed those former visitations, for although the snow was deeper the wind was not so strong nor the cold so severe. Time but a few persons were seriously injured. Now we have a great number who have lost the use of their limbs from the frost bite, and some have been lost."

A Richmond View of the Rebel Situation.

The Richmond *Examiner* of December 31 contains an exceedingly lugubrious editorial, from which the following is extracted:

To-day closes the gloomiest year of our struggle. No imaginary hope of intervention buoys up the spirit of the Confederate public as at the end of 1861. No brilliant victory like that of Fredericksburg encourages us to look forward to a speedy and successful termination of the war as in the last weeks of 1862. Meade has been foiled, and Longstreet has had a partial success in Tennessee; but Meade's advance was hardly meant in earnest, and Bragg's failure is just set off to the loss of the gallant men who fell in the murderous assault on Knoxville. Another daring Yankee raid has been carried out with comparative impunity to the invaders, and timorous capitalists may well pause before they nibble at eligible investments in real estate situated far in the interior.

That interior has been fearfully narrowed by the federal march through Tennessee; and owing to the deficiencies of our cavalry service Lincoln's gigantesque of horse threaten to be no universal a terror, so pervasive a nuisance, as his squadrons of gunboats were some months since.

The confederacy has been cut in twain along the line of the Mississippi, and our enemies are steadily pushing forward their plans for bisecting the eastern moiety. No wonder, then, that the usual advent of the reign of merry is hailed by all classes with a sense of relief.

Meanwhile the financial clouds is lowering wilder and wilder. Heartless hoop a more merciless grasp than ever on necessaries of life.

Whatever number of men, or whatever amount of money shall be really wanting, will be forthcoming. Whatever economy the straitening of our resources may require, we shall learn to exercise. We could only wish that Congress was not in such a feverish haste, and that the government would do something towards the establishment of a Statistical Bureau, or some other agency, by which we could approximately ascertain what we have to contribute, and to what extent we must husband our resources. Wise, cool, decided, prompt action would put us in good condition for the spring campaign of 1864, and the close of next year would furnish a more agreeable retrospect than the usual *catalogue* of blunders which we now consign to the dead past.

Non-producers, who are at the same time non speculators, are suffering more and more.—What was once competence has become poverty, poverty has become penury, and penury is lapsing into pauperism. Any mechanical occupation is more profitable than the most intellectual pursuits. The most accomplished scholars to the confederacy would be glad to barter their services for food and raiment, and in the complete upturning of our social relations, the only happy people are those who have black hearts or black skins.

Increasing confidence has been succeeded by depression as unreasoning; and the Yankees are congratulating themselves on the result, which they hawk about as the "beginning of the end." We all have a heavy score to pay off, and we know it. This may depress us, but our enemies need not be jubilant over our depression, for we are determined to meet them.

The Confederate Navy consists, according to their own official report, of 383 commissioned officers, 191 petty officers and 877 seamen, or about two officers to every three men.

Destruction of Rebel Property in Florida.

CHARLES MASON'S REPORT.

The Navy Department received the following dispatch on Wednesday:

[illegible]

[illegible]

THEODORUS BAILEY,
Acting Rear Admiral Commanding.

MISSING PACKAGES FOR THE SOLDIERS.—A portion of the public, including some of the country Postmasters, appear to be very slow to learn that packages of clothing, socks and [illegible] for soldiers or others, are chargeable with letter postage. Quantities of such articles continue to be mailed, prepaid only a cent an ounce, and for each insufficient postage fee detained at the distributing office, and in many cases never reach their destination. The following hints from Hillhouse's U. S. *Mail*, are worth heeding:

Many persons erroneously suppose that socks, mittens, etc., intended for soldiers, may be transmitted to them through the mail at the rate of 1 cent per ounce. This is not the case; all such articles are chargeable with letter postage.

It is found that medicines, &c., in liquid form, and in glass vials, are being sent to soldiers through the mails. The rights of other classes of correspondents cannot be thus put in jeopardy, and postmasters should refuse such articles, unless the vials or bottles are enclosed and fully packed in wooden cases, and the packages should be made as small as possible. The expense cannot be used for all such parcels, where it is possible, instead of the mails.

Prepaid letters for soldiers, addressed to places where their regiments have been stationed, but from which they have been removed, may be forwarded to the new locality without extra charge.

According to the Manchester *Mirror*, a person in New Ipswich has nine parents living. On his father's side he has a grandfather and a grandmother. On his mother's side he has a grandfather and grandmother, a great grandfather and great grandmother, also a great grandmother on the maternal grandmother's side, making, with his own father and mother, nine parents.