

THE TRANSCRIPT.

ST. ALBANS.

Friday, March 10, 1865.

The Fourth of March, 1865.

On Saturday last the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln as President of the United States, was celebrated at Washington with the pomp and glorious circumstance common to such events.

The inaugural of President Lincoln is published in another column, and will be read with great attention and interest. It can hardly fail to be impressive, uttered as it is in the midst of momentous events. One of our best exchanges properly says that the people re-elected Mr. Lincoln from an instinctive feeling that in no way would they so well express their determination utterly to suppress the rebellion. It has been so interpreted by the South, and has had great influence in producing weakness and confusion among the rebels. Mr. Lincoln enters upon his second term with every prospect of seeing peace restored, freedom established as the fundamental law, and a new career of unity and prosperity opened to the nation before his present term closes. It is a proud day for him and the people. The recent victories of our armies, the successive fall of the strongholds of the rebellion, and the prospect of still greater successes close at hand will give zest to the usual festivities of the day. Aside from the rejoicing throughout the country that Abraham Lincoln is re-elected and sworn in, for the second term, the Chief Magistrate of this free country, the fourth of March was set apart in many places in the loyal States for public demonstrations in honor of the cheering successes of the National Arms. Meetings also were held in divers cities and towns and prayers offered to Almighty God on behalf of the men who have been set apart to guide the affairs of this Republic.

In several cities the day was duly celebrated with military and civic display. Salutes, ringing of bells, and other demonstrations were more or less the order of the day in many towns in each commonwealth. In some appropriate way every patriotic heart manifested its gratitude for the blessings vouchsafed to us as a nation and for the success which had crowned the efforts of our brave armies.

On the fourth of March, 1865, the "coiling serpent of bayonets" is tightening its folds around Richmond. Grant watches and waits at Petersburg. Sherman is hurrying through the Carolinas. Schofield advances from Wilmington. Sheridan is ready for another dash in the valley—all bent upon reducing the strong hold of rebellion.

President Lincoln, with his able cabinet; takes the helm of States for another four years. All the omens for the future are auspicious.

This is the last number of the first volume of THE VERMONT TRANSCRIPT and with the next issue will commence volume two. Our subscription books are not so well filled but we have room for an additional number. Will our friends who have kindly encouraged us heretofore, stand by us and speak a good word to their next neighbor.

Our terms are reasonable and our efforts shall be continued to present a live paper, and one worthy of general patronage.

The Oil News and Mining Journal is the name of a newspaper just started in Pittsburgh, Pa., printed on book paper in large eight page form and entirely devoted to oil and mining interests. Mr. F. Woods and Mr. J. A. Blake—the former publisher of Trade of the West, and the latter from the Cincinnati Petroleum Gazette—are the publishers.

ACTION OF THE NORTH-WESTERN CONSOCIATION.—At a special meeting of the North-Western Consociation held in Swanton, Jan. 24th and 25th, 1865, the following resolution was adopted with but one dissenting vote:

Resolved, That from a careful examination of the facts in the case, we are convinced that the proceedings of that body at its special meetings, held on February and August, 1859, in regard to the affairs of the Congregational Church in Swanton, and its Pastor, are null and void, because of the fact that the matters upon which it acted were, in reality, never before it for its consideration.

Judge Smith of Montreal, before whom the St. Albans raiders are now undergoing a trial, is still "in-disposed" and a further trial of the case has been postponed a number of days. If this indisposition continues much longer our people will be strongly inclined to the belief that the trouble is an "indisposition" to surrender up the men.

The Inauguration.

By Telegraph to the Springfield Republican.

President Lincoln was inaugurated for his second term of office at noon on Saturday. A heavy rain storm in the morning cleared off just in time to enable the procession to be carried out according to the programme, though the mud in the streets and around the capitol was fearful. But this did not prevent the presence of a large crowd to witness the progress of the procession and the inauguration ceremonies. A few minutes before noon the Vice President elect was sworn in by Vice President Hamlin, and took his seat as presiding officer of the Senate. Before taking the oath he made a brief speech, which was almost inaudible on account of the talking of the women in the galleries. He said, in substance, that, by the choice of the people he had been made presiding officer of the Senate, and in presenting himself there, in obedience to the behests of the constitution of the United States, it would, perhaps, not be out of place to remark just here what a striking thing the constitution was. It was the constitution of the people of the country, and under it, here to-day, before the American Senate, he felt that he was a man and an American citizen. He had a proud illustration of the fact that under the constitution a man could rise from the ranks to occupy the second place in the gift of the American people, and of the American government. Those of us who have labored our whole lives for the establishment of a free government, know how to cherish its great blessings. He would say to the senators and others before him, to the supreme court which sat before him, that they all got their power from the people of this country. Turning towards Mr. Chase Mr. Johnson said, and your exaltation and position depend upon the people. Then turning toward the cabinet ministers he said, and I will say to you, Mr. Secretary Seward, and to you, Mr. Secretary Stanton, and to you, Mr. Secretary to a gentleman near by, sotto voce, "who is secretary of the navy?" The person addressed replied in a whisper, "Mr. Welles." And to you, Mr. Secretary Welles, I would say you all derive your power from the people. Mr. Johnson then remarked that the great element of vitality in this government was its nearness and proximity to the people. He wanted to say to all who heard him, in the face of the American people, that all power was derived from the people. He would say in the hearing of the foreign ministers, for he was going to tell the truth here, that he was a plebeian. He thanked God for it. It was the popular heart of this nation that was beating to sustain cabinet officials and the president of the United States. It was a strange occasion that called forth a plebeian like him to tell such things as these. Mr. Johnson next adverted to affairs in Tennessee, and the abolition of slavery there. He thanked God that Tennessee was a State in the Union, and had never been out. The State government had been discontinued for a time; there had been an interregnum, a hiatus; but she had never been out of the Union. He stood there to-day as her representative. On this day, she would elect a governor and a legislature, and she would very soon send senators and members to Congress.

President Lincoln has been at the capitol all the morning, signing bills, and consequently did not come in the procession, which embraced two regiments of the invalid corps, detachments of cavalry and artillery, several companies of colored troops, (a most unusual spectacle on such an occasion,) and numerous civic dignitaries and associations, including women from Philadelphia and Baltimore. At noon the president elect, justices of the supreme court, members of Congress and other officials, proceeded to the Senate chamber, where a procession was formed which proceeded to the east portico of the capitol, where the oath of office was administered to the president by Chief Justice Chase, and the inaugural address was delivered in the presence of a vast concourse of spectators, and was preceded and followed by music from numerous bands and the firing of cannon. The procession then moved again up Pennsylvania avenue, the president being conveyed in an open barouche, accompanied by his son and Senator Foster of the committee of arrangements, and on reaching the White House the ceremonies of the day were ended. Everything passed off pleasantly and orderly, and not an accident occurred to one of the thousands in attendance. The following is the Inaugural Address.

Fellow-Countrymen: At this second appearing to take the oath of the presidential office there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first. Then a statement of a course to be pursued seemed very fitting and proper. Now, at the expiration of four years, during which public declarations have been constantly called forth on every point and phase of the great contest which still absorbs the attention and engrosses the energies of the nation, little that is new could be presented. The progress of our arms, upon which all else chiefly depends, is as well known to the public as to myself, and it is, I trust, reasonably satisfactory and encouraging to all. With high hope for the future, no prediction in regard to it is ventured.

On the occasion corresponding to this, four years ago, all thoughts were anxiously directed to an impending civil war. All dreaded it, all sought to avoid it. While the inaugural address was being delivered from this place, devoted altogether to saving the Union without war, insurgent agents were in the city seeking to destroy it without war; seeking to dissolve the Union and divide the effects by negotiation. Both parties de-

preented war, but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive, and the other would accept war rather than let it perish, and the war came.

One-eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was somehow the cause of the war. To strengthen, perpetuate and extend this interest was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union by war, while the government claimed no right to do more than restrict the territorial enlargement of it. Neither party expected for the war the magnitude or the duration which it has already attained. Neither anticipated that the cause of the conflict might cease, even before the conflict itself should cease. Each looked for an easier triumph and a result less fundamental and astounding.

Both read the same Bible and pray to the same God, and each invokes his aid against the other. It may seem strange that any man should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces, but let us judge not, that we may not be judged. The prayer of both could not be answered. That of neither has been answered fully. The Almighty has his own purposes. "Woe into the world because of offenses, for it must needs be that offenses come, but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh." If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of these offenses which, in the providence of God, must needs come, but which having continued through His appointed time, He now wills to remove, and that He gives to both North and South this terrible war as the woe due to those by whom the offense came, shall we discern there any departure from those Divine attributes which the believers in a living God always ascribe to Him? Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all wealth piled by the bondman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn by the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said, "The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

With malice toward no one, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, and to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

Facts About the 7-30s—The Advantage they offer.

THEIR ABSOLUTE SECURITY.—Nearly all active credits are now based on Government securities, and banks hold them as the very best and strongest investment they can make. If it were possible to contemplate the financial failure of the Government, no bank would be any safer. If money is loaned on individual notes or bond and mortgage, it will be payable in the same currency as the Government pays with, and no better. The Government never has failed to meet its engagements, and the national debt is a first mortgage upon the whole property of the country. While other stocks fluctuate from ten to fifty, or even a greater per cent., Government stocks are always comparatively firm. Their value is fixed and reliable, beyond all other securities; for while a thousand speculative bubbles rise and burst, as a rule they are never below par, and are often above.

ITS LIBERAL INTEREST.—The general rate of interest is six per cent., payable annually. This is seven and three-tenths, payable semi-annually. If you lend on mortgage, there must be a searching of titles, lawyers' fees, stamp duties and delays, and you will finally have returned to you only the same kind of money you would receive from the Government, and less of it. If you invest in this loan, you have no trouble. Any bank or banker will obtain it for you without charge. To each note or bond are affixed five "coupons" or interest tickets, due at the expiration of each successive half-year. The holder of a note has simply to cut off one of these coupons, present it to the nearest bank or Government Agency, and receive his interest; the note itself need not be presented at all. Or a coupon thus payable will everywhere be equivalent, when due, to money. If you wish to borrow ninety cents on the dollar upon the notes, you have the highest security in the market to do it with. If you wish to sell, it will bring within a fraction of cost and interest at any moment. It will be very handy to have in the house.

IT IS CONVERTIBLE INTO A SIX PER CENT. GOLD-BEARING BOND. At the expiration of three years a holder of the notes of the 7.30 Loan has the option of accepting payment in full or of funding his notes in a six per cent gold-interest bond, the principal payable in not less than five, nor more than twenty years from its date, as the Government may elect. These bonds are held at such a premium as to make this privilege now worth two or three per cent. per annum, and adds so much to the interest. Notes of the same class, issued three years ago, are now selling at a rate that fully proves the correctness of this statement.

ITS EXEMPTION FROM STATE OR MUNICIPAL TAXATION.—But aside from all the advantages we have enumerated, a special Act of Congress exempts all bonds and Treasury notes from local taxation. On the average this exemption is worth about two per cent. per an-

num, according to the rate of taxation in various parts of the country.

IT IS A NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK.—While this loan presents great advantages to large capitalists, it offers special inducements to those who wish to make a safe and profitable investment of small savings. It is in every way the best Savings Bank; for every institution of this kind must somehow invest its deposits profitably in order to pay interest and expenses. They will invest largely in this loan, as the best investment. But from the gross interest which they receive, they must deduct largely for the expenses of the Bank. Their usual rate of interest allowed to depositors is 5 per cent. upon sums over \$500. The person who invests directly with Government will receive almost 50 per cent. more. Thus the man who deposits \$1000 in a private Savings Bank receives 50 dollars a year interest; if he deposits the same sum in this national Savings Bank he receives 73 dollars. For those who wish to find a safe, convenient, and profitable means of investing the surplus earnings which they have reserved for their old age or for the benefit of their children, there is nothing which presents so many advantages as this National Loan.

THE HIGHEST MOTIVE.—The war is evidently drawing to a close, but while it lasts the Treasury must have money to meet its cost, and every motive that patriotism can inspire should induce the people to supply its wants without delay. The Government can buy cheaper for cash in hand than on credit. Let us see that its wants are promptly and liberally satisfied.—N. Y. Examiner.

CONGRESSIONAL.

FEB. 25. The U. S. Senate was in session until nearly twelve o'clock, the principal subject of discussion being the reorganization of the State government of Louisiana. The Senate finally adjourned without taking any action. The House adopted a resolution making the inquiry if rebel prisoners had been enlisted and credited to the quota of any State. It also adopted a resolution inquiring if order had been issued to prevent colored men leaving Washington without a pass. The amendatory enrollment bill was discussed and amended.

FEB. 26. In the Senate, a communication was read from the Secretary of War in reply to a resolution declining to present information in regard to the number of troops furnished by each State under the different calls of the President. Mr. Lane of Kansas reported a bill to protect immigrants from being deported into the army and navy. The Senate postponed the consideration of the Louisiana bill, and took up the tax bill, which was discussed until a late hour. In the House, the amendment to the fortification bill, reducing the appropriations in it one-half, was concurred in. The Senate refused to concur with the House in adding the deficiency bill to the legislative bill, as the Senate omitted the extra compensation for House employees. The amendatory enrollment bill was taken up and passed, after adopting some amendments and rejecting others. The committee of conference on the disagreeing vote on the amendment to the navy appropriation bill made a report, which was adopted, and the bill passed. The balance of the session was occupied by the six hundred million loan bill, which was considered in committee.

FEB. 28. In the Senate, the bill for the purchase of a naval picture to be painted by Mr. Powell, was passed. Mr. Wilson reported from the military committee a bill to incorporate a national asylum for disabled soldiers; also a bill to pay certain colored volunteers who enlisted in South Carolina. The tax bill was considered until the recess. In the evening, Mr. Sumner introduced a joint resolution, authorizing Capt. Henry Stollwagen of the navy, to receive a sword of honor from the British government, for relieving the officers and crew of a British vessel in distress. Mr. Wilson made a report on the freedmen's bureau bill. The amendatory tax bill was considered and amended in reference to savings banks. Mr. Sherman offered an amendment, which was adopted, in reference to collectors of public moneys and their salaries and expenses. The House went into committee of the whole on the six hundred million loan bill, and after acting upon some amendments offered, reported to the House. In the House the bill as originally reported, was passed with some amendments, which did not change the feature of it in regard to the amount of interest. The House then went into committee on the tariff bill, but took no action before the hour of recess arrived. In the evening, the House passed bills introduced by the naval committee, to provide for a solicitor of the navy department, to regulate the transfer of men from the army to the navy, for punishment of desertion, and for additional legislation concerning prize money. Mr. Rice of Mass. reported a bill to pay Capt. Winslow and his officers and men of the Kearsarge \$192,000, the supposed value of the Alabama. The Senate bill concerning paymasters in the navy was passed, and some action was taken on the claims of contractors. The bill to compensate Capt. Winalow and his crew was referred.

MARCH 2. The Senate continued their work upon the new tax bill in committee of the whole. The committee reported, and the Senate considered the bill, which, after some change was passed. The resolution in regard to servants of officers was passed. The House resolution for continuing the committee on the conduct of the war after the adjournment, was agreed to. Several Indian bills were passed. Mr. Sumner presented a memorial from the West Virginia Legislature, asking aid to emancipate slaves in that State. Mr. Wilson reported on a petition, that it was inex-

pedient at present for Congress to appropriate money for the Gettysburg cemetery. Mr. Grimes presented the credentials of James Guthrie, senator elect from Kentucky. Mr. Doolittle presented the credentials of Michael Hahn, senator elect from Louisiana, which were laid upon the table. A new committee of conference was appointed on the army bill. The House pension bill was passed. The bill to consolidate the tribes in the Indian Territory, and establish a civil government therein, was passed. The report of the conference committee on the postal law was concurred in. The bill incorporating the Freedmen's Saving and Trust Co. was passed. In the House, the report of a select committee providing for appointing certain new committees for the House, was concurred in. The civil appropriation bill was taken up and passed. The report of the conference committee on the bill relating to postal laws was concurred in. The Senate bill concerning collection of direct taxes in insurgent States was passed. The House non-concurred in all of the Senate amendments to the internal revenue bill. The bill amendatory of the national banking law was passed. Senate joint resolutions in reference to the appointment of Chief of Staff for Gen. Grant, and concerning the employment of disabled soldiers and sailors, was passed. The select committee reported that the charges of fraud against the Commissioner of Patents were found not sustained.

MARCH 3. Both houses of Congress transacted a large amount of important business. In the Senate, the tariff bill was passed, after some amendments were made to it. The usual vote of thanks was tendered the Vice-President. A bill in reference to intercourse with the rebel States was passed, after being amended. The report of the committee of conference on the freedmen's bureau was agreed to. The House bill to provide for a national currency was passed. The report of the committee on conference on the internal revenue bill was passed. In the House a bill was passed to prohibit the enlistment of criminals. The report of the committee on the freedmen's bureau bill was adopted. A bill was passed providing for issuing three cent pieces. The Senate bill incorporating the freedmen's saving and trust company was passed. The report of the committee of conference upon the army appropriation bill was adopted, as was that of a similar committee on the internal revenue bill. The usual resolution of thanks was tendered to the Speaker. The President at a late hour was signing bills.

MARCH 4. The report of the committee of conference upon the amendatory enrollment bill was concurred in by the Senate. The civil appropriation bill was taken up and amended. The conference committee on the army appropriation bill were reported unable to agree. The Senate insisted upon its action. Several private bills were passed, and at seven o'clock the Senate went into executive session. At ten o'clock the Senate recommenced business, and the bill authorizing the issuance of three-cent pieces was passed. The bill to regulate commerce between the States was taken up and amended. At a quarter to twelve the Vice-President elect was escorted into the chamber by the Vice-President, Mr. Hamlin. The latter made some remarks thanking the senators for their courtesy. The oath of office was then administered to Andrew Johnson to support, as Vice-President, the Constitution of the U. S. He previously making a short speech. Mr. Hamlin then declared the Senate adjourned sine die. The Senate then met in extra session, the proclamation calling the session was read and the senators elect sworn in. The procession was then formed, and the President was escorted to the part of the building where the inauguration ceremonies were to take place. In the House, the report of the conference committee on the amendatory tariff bill was agreed to. The report of the committee on several military subjects including the enrollment bill, was adopted. The bill to dispose of government coal mines was passed. The report of the conference committee on the bill for reorganizing the subsistence department was agreed to. The House at seven o'clock Saturday morning took a recess. After a recess of two hours, the House again assembled. The committee of conference on the civil appropriation bill reported that the only point in it remaining unsettled was in reference to the trial of citizens by courts martial. As no agreement could be arrived at, that important bill, involving an appropriation of millions, was lost. The report of the conference committee on the duty on paper was taken up. While the clerk was calling the roll upon the report, the hour of twelve arrived, and the Speaker, after a few remarks, declared the House adjourned sine die.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS. Special Session. The Senate of the Thirty-ninth Congress of the United States reassembled March 6th in special session, Vice-President Johnson presiding. The usual measure was taken to inform the president that the Senate was prepared to receive communications from him. The President sent to the Senate about thirty nominations, most of which were for internal revenue offices. He also sent in the nomination of Hon. Hugh McCulloch as Secretary of the Treasury, and those of G. Bennett for Judge, and Benjamin Silliman for Attorney of the new judicial district in Eastern New York. A motion was made to confirm that of the Secretary of the Treasury, but it was withdrawn on the statement by Mr. Fessenden that Mr. McCulloch desired that it might lay over for a day or two. Mr. Harrington is Secretary ad interim. There being no committees in the Senate yet, all nominations made were laid on the table, to be referred when committees are organized.

LATE WAR NEWS.

FROM SHERIDAN. Sheridan in the Saddle Again.

Cavalry reinforcements and pontoon bridges arrived at Winchester on the 25th ult., and on the 27th Sheridan started with 15,000 cavalry to operate against Lynchburg. The possibility of Sheridan and Sherman effecting a junction at Danville or in that vicinity is hinted at. Gen. Hancock assumed command at Winchester when Sheridan left.

Official dispatches from Gen. Grant, dated Sunday, state that rebel deserters from every part of the rebel lines who came in on Sunday morning, and also rebel refugees reported that on Thursday last Gen. Sheridan captured Charlottesville and completely routed the rebel forces there, capturing Gen. Early and some 1800 men, nearly his whole army. Four brigades of rebel troops had been sent from Richmond to try and reach Lynchburg before Gen. Sheridan could get there, and he held the place if possible. The latest reports from Sheridan direct place him at Staunton.

Conspiracy to Take Sheridan.

The expedition up the valley, which captured Early at Charlottesville, started on the 27th of Feb. It was commanded in person by Gen. Sheridan and his subordinates, Gens. Merritt, Custer, Devins, Forsyth and Gibbs. A few days ago three Winchester families, by the names of Sheppard, Lee and Bunell, were sent within our lines on the charge of disloyalty. It is alleged they conspired together to get up a social ball, to which Gen. Sheridan was to be an invited guest, and that during its progress a detachment of Mosby's guerrillas was to seize the general, take him captive and convey him to Richmond, a la Kelley and Crook. The plan was frustrated, and the ladies (!) who concocted it are now in full communion with those for whom they have exhibited such a warm sympathy.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 27th ult. stated that when the captured generals Kelley and Crook were taken to Gen. Early, he said to them: "Take seats, gentlemen, I presume you are tired after your ride," and then added, "I expect some enterprising Yankee will be stealing off with me in the same way one of these days." Sheridan has fulfilled the prophecy thus made in joke.

FROM SHERMAN.

Sherman's advance is reported, upon what is deemed reliable rebel authority, to have reached Fayetteville, N. C., which is at the head of navigation on the Cape Fear river. Porter's gunboats are also reported there. Another report brought by steamer from Smithville, N. C., reports that a part of Sherman's army had arrived at Wilmington, and was marching through. The former report is the more credible.

Various Rebel Reports.

Deserters from Lee's army state that when he made his late visit south he took with him two divisions of Anderson's corps to reinforce the army confronting Sherman, and that heavy siege guns are being sent from Petersburg to Greensboro, N. C. Richmond papers talk of Sherman as stuck in the mud somewhere. Gen. Wade Hampton reports Sherman's force at 35,000. The Whig thinks he has 60,000. The Enquirer of the 1st says—"From Charlotte we learn that the anxiety which had prevailed in that quarter for several days had subsided. Columbia advices state that the fire which occurred there on the evacuation by our troops extended from Main street to the Charlotte depot, a distance of three-fourths of a mile. No public property was destroyed. The city is now in the possession of Gen. Hampton's troops."

It is reported that Bragg brought Schofield to a halt at Northeast river, ten miles from Wilmington, and it was thought Schofield would then take the road to Fayetteville. The rebels destroyed the pirate Chicomanga at Cape Fear river.

WASHINGTON, March 6.

Rebel deserters report that Sherman flanked Florence, S. C., and moved on Fayetteville, N. C., thus confirming previous accounts. Richmond papers of Friday say there had not been even a rumor from the seat of war in the south for two days.

Our naval forces have captured Fort White, a splendid establishment, mounting 17 heavy guns, just below Georgetown, S. C. The sailors and marines then landed and captured Georgetown. The rebel cavalry made a charge on them in the streets, but were gallantly repulsed, with a loss of several killed, wounded and prisoners. Our loss, one man. Admiral Dahlgren's flagship, the Harvest Moon, on her way down, was sunk by torpedoes. All hands were saved excepting the steward.

FROM GRANT.

Gen. Grant stated on Friday that the recent rains had made all movements impracticable for a week at least. Richmond papers say that Grant received 6000 troops from Alexandria last week. They also state that fifteen Yankee deserters arrived together one day last week, and said that Grant was not making troops on their right; it was only new recruits coming in. Lee's troops now get a whisky ration every day to "fire the southern heart."

An attempt has been made to fire the state tobacco warehouse, at Richmond, supposed to be by an incendiary. The Dispatch of the 2d says: "Owing to certain groundless reports, which have gained circulation in Richmond for the past few days, a large number of country people have been deterred from bringing their products to market, and, as a consequence, but little is offered at those places for sale. That further inquiry may not ensue from these rumors we hereby contradict them upon the very highest au-

thority." This probably alludes to reports of the intended evacuation of the city.

New York, March 8.

The Herald's Wilmington Correspondent of the 22d says:

Reports reached that place confirming the statement that Sherman had reached Cape Fear River, 60 miles above Wilmington, previous to the 1st, thus baffling the rebel plans to concentrate their forces against him and to force a battle near Goldsboro with the advantages in their favor.

The Wilmington Journal in an article just previous to our occupation of that place, admitted that unless Sherman was speedily checked Richmond would have to be evacuated.

The Herald's City Point dispatch says there were rumors in the army of the Potomac that Sherman had defeated Johnston in a heavy battle and captured 15,000 prisoners.

The Herald's 6th corps correspondent of the 6th inst. says: There are indications that Lee will fall back to the line of the Roanoke, as large numbers of negroes have already been sent there to throw up fortifications. The siege guns of Petersburg and Richmond have been sent in that direction.

The Herald's Wilmington correspondent of Feb. 23d makes no allusion to the reported junction of Schofield's forces with Sherman. Gen. Schofield was busy perfecting plans for the continuance of his campaign in N. C.

New York, March 8.

The Herald's City Point correspondent of the 6th inst. rebel deserters and refugees coming into our lines before Richmond, confirm the reports already published, that Gen. Sheridan had captured the rebel Gen. Early, and nearly his entire army, on Thursday and Friday last, in the Shenandoah Valley, between Charlottesville and Staunton.

It is believed that Gen. Sheridan is now well advanced on his way to Lynchburg or Richmond, in which event he may be design.

The Tribune's Washington dispatch says it is reported from Hancock's headquarters at Winchester, Va., that Sheridan has defeated Early, but that Early is not yet captured.

Newbern, N. C., March 1.

Intelligence from North Carolina papers indicate that both sections are gathering their forces in her border for the final struggle.

A Raleigh paper says the people of that city will hear the guns of the great and last battle of the American rebellion; and that the traditional grounds of the old North State will be the common grave yard of state rights and state lines, without which no attempt at secession could have been made.

The Raleigh Progress says: The Federals are concentrating a force of 40,000 men at Newbern, which will soon be ready to strike Lee's army in conjunction with Sherman's forces.

Speculations on the Mission of Gen. Sickles.

New York, March 5.

The Panama Mercantile Chronicle of February 13, has a report that the mission of General Sickles is to procure from the Columbian government a concession of lands on which to form a settlement of 30,000 of the negroes emancipated by the great secession war. The report says—but the Chronicle doubts it—that one million dollars would be paid for the privilege.

NEWS SUMMARY.

Baldy Smith has established a commission at New Orleans to investigate frauds.

Ex-Vice President Hamlin goes home to Maine and private life.

Nine thousand bales of cotton arrived at New York Monday from Savannah.

An overland camel express from Missouri to California, via Nebraska and Colorado, is talked of.

A distillery at Steubenville, Ohio, worth \$200,000, was lately seized by government, on account of internal revenue frauds.

There is a dry goods panic at New York. A. T. Stewart and other large dealers have been selling domestic goods at ruinous sacrifices for a couple of weeks. They fear lower prices.

The Raleigh Journal says it was Haygood's rebel brigade that was captured by Schofield near Wilmington when our troops took the city. All our prisoners at Raleigh have been sent to North-east Ridge, near Wilmington, for exchange.

Gen. Sully is organizing a couple of regiments of repentant rebel prisoners, who have been confined at Rock Island, Ill., to fight against the Indians.

In answer to the appeal for food for the rebel army, a correspondent of a Richmond paper, who signs himself "Petersburg," suggests that the money need to be paid as well as food, and offers to be one of twenty-five to give two hundred thousand dollars to General Lee's army. This seems extraordinary munificence until one reflects that the rebel dollar is worth only two cents now, and presently may not be worth anything.

In the high steeple of St. Michael's at Charleston, may be seen the sanctum of the officer appointed to count the number and effect of the shells during the siege. He had a rope ladder with which to make the dizzy descent.

No tickets were sold to colored gentlemen for the inauguration ball at Washington. A report that they would be, caused such a fluttering of the first circles that the court organ, the Chronicle, was obliged to deny it by authority.