Richmond Dispatch.

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THURSDAY MORNING.....JAN. 22, 1863.

DAILY DISPATCH.

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LATE NORTHERN NEWS.

From the latest Northern papers we make up a summary of the news in the United States. The Yankees think it was Forrest who captured their transports and gunboat on the Cumberland river—it was Wheeler, and we are glad to see that he took the negroes frolicking among the crews, and carrying them ashore gave them a good cowhiding. The feeling at Nashville about Rosecrans is described by Federal letters as "very gloomy." There has been a heavy snow in the West, ranging in depth from six to ten inches. In Kentucky the railroad trains are generally blockaded.

THE LOSSES IN THE BANKS EXPEDITION.

The heavy loss of vessels in the Banks expedition to New Orleans is leaking out, though it was most carefully concealed by the Federal Government. The wrecks of ships belonging to the expedition are said to be strewn all along the shore between New Orleans and New York. The New Orleans correspondent of the Philadelphia *Inquirer* asserts as his belief, based upon personal knowledge and information derived from other sources, that not less than fifteen vessels belonging to the expedition "have been wrecked, disabled, condemned, or have gone down at sea and no account made of them." The correspondent adds:

How our poor soldiers have suffered none can imagine, much less describe. Piled between the decks of creaking, groaning, leaking, rotten old tow-boats that were, before being chartered for the expedition, entirely unfit to navigate our rivers—some of them, in fact, laid up, because there was fear of their sinking in the North river, and sent on a sea voyage that should require the stoutest seagoing ships. Who can imagine the misery our brave troops have suffered? and, what is still worse, there is a disposition on the part of those in authority to hush the thing up, and give as little information to the public as possible. Coming down the coast in the steamer Albany, I happened to meet the transports Jersey Blue, Thames, and Sandford.—The two first, crowded with troops, were sinking in Port Royal, and the last was a crumbling wreck off Cheves's Reef. Now, strange to say, when I arrived here, although several vessels were in port before us, nobody seemed to be informed of the disasters I have mentioned. Hence it will readily appear that a dozen of like character may have happened, and all except those immediately in the secret remain ignorant of them.

GEN. ROSECRANS'S ORDER FOR THE IMPRISONMENT OF CONFEDERATE OFFICERS.

HDQ'RS DEP'T OF THE CUMBERLAND, Murfreesboro', Jan. 6, 1863.

General Order No. ——The General commanding is assigned to inform the commissioned officers of the Confederate army, taken prisoners by forces under his command, that, owing to the barbarous measures announced by President Davis in his recent proclamation, denying parole to our officers, he will be obliged to treat them in like manner.

It is a matter of regret to him that this rigor appears to be necessary. He trusts that such remonstrance as may be made in the name of justice, humanity, and civilization may reach the Confederate authorities as will induce them to pursue a different course and thereby enable him to accord to their officers the privileges which he is always pleased to extend to brave men, even though fighting for a cause which he considers hostile to our nation and disastrous to human freedom.

By command of Gen. Rosecrans.

GEO. GODFARD, A. A. G.

PROTEST OF THE (UNION) KENTUCKY LEGISLATURE.

We have already published an abstract of the late Message of Governor Robinson, of Kentucky, stating particularly his hostility to emancipation. We find by late advices from Frankfort that the State Legislature inclines to the same views as Governor Robinson. In the Senate, on the 9th instant, joint resolutions were introduced, as follows:

Resolved, That Kentucky hereby enters her solemn protest to the Emancipation Proclamation of Abraham Lincoln, issued on the first day of January, 1863, because unconstitutional, and, if designed as a war measure, both unwise and impolitic; that the President of the United States, as Commander-in-Chief of the army and navy, has no power by the Constitution, either by proclamation, hastenote, or edict, or any other way, to emancipate or liberate the slaves of any one; and such power, when assumed, is without any right whatever, and therefore null and void.

That the loyal people of the United States intend to crush out this wicked rebellion at the cost of whatever of blood and treasure it might require; but, at the same time, they intend to preserve inviolate that sacred instrument, the Constitution of the United States, and leave no precedent for any one in after life to take from them any of their rights.

That slavery in the United States is peculiarly and exclusively a State institution, the control of which has never been given to the General Government, and any State, now or after this rebellion shall have been put down, that has heretofore emancipated her slaves may again, in her organic law, incorporate said institution, and again foster and protect slavery, without the consent of the General Government.

That the Union and Constitution must and shall be maintained.

A LETTER FROM LINCOLN TO THE DEFUNCT NAPOLEON—HE COMMANDS AN IMMEDIATE ADVANCE.

In the course of the testimony delivered by Major Gen. Hitchcock, in the McDowell Court of Inquiry, the following letter from Abraham was laid before the Court:

WASHINGTON, April 9th, 1862.

To Major General McClellan:

My dear Sir: Your dispatches, complaining that you are not properly sustained, while they do not of course pain me very much, Blenker's division was withdrawn from you before you left here, and you knew the pressure under which I did it, and as I thought, acquiesced in it—certainly not without reluctance.

After you left I ascertained that less than 20,000 men, of all sorts, without a single field battery, were in position assigned to be left for the defence of Washington and Manassas Junction, and a part of these even was to go to Gen. Hooker's old position. Gen. Banks's corps, once designed for Manassas Junction, was divided and tied up on the line of Winchester and Strasburg, and could not leave it without again exposing the Upper Potomac and the Baltimore and Ohio Road. This presented, or would present, when Gen. McDowell or Sumner should be gone, a great temptation to the enemy to turn back from the Rappahannock and sack Washington.

My explicit directions that Washington should be left in such a condition as to give the country full assurance that no more of all the commanders of corps, he left out of any secure, had been entirely neglected. It was precisely this that drove me to detain McDowell. I do not forget that I was satisfied with your arrangement to leave Banks at Manassas Junction; but when that arrangement was broken up and nothing was substituted for it, of course I was not satisfied. I was almost constrained to substitute something for it myself.

And now allow me to ask: Do you really think I should permit the line from Richmond via Manassas Junction to this city to be entirely open, except what little resistance could be presented by less than 20,000 unorganized troops? This is a question which the country will not allow me to decide.

There is a serious mystery about the number of troops now with you. I telegraphed you on the 6th saying that you had over 100,000 with you. I had just obtained from the Secretary of War a statement taken, as he said, from your own returns, making 103,000 men then with you and en route to you. You now say that you have but 85,000 when all en route to you shall have reached you. How can this discrepancy of 35,000 be accounted for?

As to Gen. Wool's command, I understand it is doing for you precisely what a like number of your own would have to do if that command was away. I suppose the whole force which has gone forward to you is with you by this time, and if so, I think it is the precise time for you to strike a blow. By delay the enemy will readily gain on you, that is, he will gain faster by fortifications and reinforcement than you can by reinforcements alone. And once more, let me tell you, it is indispensable to you that you strike a blow.

I am powerless to help this; you will do me the justice to remember I always wished not going down the bay in search of a field, instead of fighting at or near Manassas, as only shifting and not surmounting a difficulty; that we would find the same enemy and the same (or equal entrenchments at either place. The country will not fail to note (is nothing new) that the present hesitation to move upon an entrenched enemy is but the story of Manassas repeated.

I beg to assure you that I have never written or spoken to you in greater kindness of feeling than now, nor with a fuller purpose to sustain you, so far as in my most anxious judgment I could institutionally can. But you must act.

Yours, very truly,

(Signed) A. LINCOLN.

DISCLOSURES ABOUT THE FEELING IN THE GRAND ARMY.

The New York *Herald*, of Saturday, has a characteristic criticism on a letter which appears in the New York *Times*, written from the army of the Potomac. The *Herald* says:

One of our Abolition organs of this city published a letter yesterday, purporting to come from the "Headquarters of the Army of the Potomac," which is a contribution by wholesale of "aid and comfort to the enemy." All the declared treasonable or disloyal publications of all the newspapers heretofore suppressed by the Government cannot amount to nothing compared with the mischievous disclosures, if true, of this sensation letter of our aforesaid Abolition contemporary. It tells the world and the rebel army in front of once at Fredericksburg that the "Administration looks with distrust on the Army of the Potomac," and that that army "looks with distrust on the Administration;" that Gen. Hallock has denounced this army as "disaffected and dangerous," and that in fact, "the Army of the Potomac has ceased to exist;" that "the animosity in Washington towards the army is amply repaid by the bitterness of the army towards the Cabinet;" that Gen. Burnside had been ordered to move against the enemy last Thursday week, and that the order was countermanded with the discovery that some of his officers "had no confidence in him;" that the army is demoralized and in a dangerous position, and that the Cabinet is debating whether to break it up, to appoint a new commander, or to try another advance under its present organization and leader; and so on to the end of the chapter.

Had a spy been employed by Jeff Davis to come over into our lines and gather all the information that he possibly could, calculated to demoralize our army, to strengthen the enemy and weaken the Government, he would have returned abundantly satisfied with a copy of this aforesaid letter. In the simple fact that the Army of the Potomac has remained stationary since the battle of Fredericksburg, there is evidence of something wrong; and from the numerous idle rumors, and bits of fact, and ingenious exaggerations, afloat in Washington, it is easy to understand how the disclosures of the letter in question were woven together. But, whether false or true, if such efforts among our professedly Administration journals be held up to the contempt of other nations and to the advantage of the enemy our army and our Government can be quietly permitted at Washington, it may as well be proclaimed at once that the loyal States are open for the establishment of newspapers directly in the service and pay of Jeff Davis.

GEN. SHERMAN'S FAREWELL TO THE ARMY OF TENNESSEE.

At Milliken's Bend General Sherman issued the following order, taking his farewell of the Army of the Tennessee:

General Orders, No. 5.

HEADQ'RS RIGHT WING ARMY OF TENN., Steamer Forest Queen, Milliken's Bend, January 4, 1863.

Pursuant to the terms of General Order No. 1, made this day by General McClernand, the title of our army ceases to exist, and constitutes in the future the Army of the Mississippi, composed of two "army corps," one to be commanded by General T. W. Morgan, and the other by myself. In relinquishing the command of the Army of the Tennessee, and restricting my authority to my own corps, I desire to express to all commanders, to soldiers and officers recently operating before Vicksburg, my hearty thanks for their zeal, alacrity, and courage manifested by them on all occasions. We failed in accomplishing one great purpose of our movement, the capture of Vicksburg; but we were part of a whole. Ours was but part of a combined movement, in which others were to assist. We were on time; unforeseen contingencies must have delayed the others. We have destroyed Nelson's Shreveport road, we have attacked the defences of Vicksburg, and pushed the attack far as prudence would justify, and having found it too strong for our single column, we have drawn off in good order and good spirits, ready for any new move. A new commander is now here to lead you. He is chosen by the President of the United States, who is charged by the Constitution to maintain and defend it, and he has the undoubted right to select his own agents. I know that all good officers and soldiers will give him the same hearty support and cheerful obedience they have hitherto given me. There are honors enough in reserve for all, and work enough, too. In each do his appropriate part, and our nation must in the end emerge from this dire conflict purified and ennobled by the fires which now test its strength and purity. All officers of the General Staff not attached to my person will hereafter report in person and by letter to Major General McClernand, commanding the Army of the Mississippi, on board the steamer Tigress, at our rendezvous at Gaines's Landing and at Montgomery Point. By order of

Major General W. T. SHERMAN.

J. H. Hammond, Assistant Adjutant General.

THE NEW ORLEANS CHURCHES RE-OPENED

Gen. Banks has rescinded Butler's order closing sundry Episcopal churches of that city for the omission of the prayer for the "President of the United States" from the service. We quote from the re-opening order:

An application for the suspension of the order closing certain churches in the city of New Orleans has been presented to the military Governor of the State, and by him referred to the Major General commanding. An omission in the church service seemed to have been made by direction of the church government, it understood to have been the basis of this order. Where the head of the State is also head of the church, an omission like that referred to would be a contravention of political authority, but the government does not here assume that power, and the case presented does not seem to require a continued intervention of military authority. The order is, therefore, provisionally rescinded, and the churches will be reopened as heretofore, on and after Christmas day. This decision is based upon the negative character of the offence charged.

THE DEMOCRACY OF ILLINOIS.

Since the news of the election of Mr. Richardson to the U. S. Senate, the Democrats held a mass meeting at Springfield, in which they denounced the emancipation proclamation and the Lincoln Administration in severe terms. A correspondent of the St. Louis *Democrat* says:

The committee of the Democratic meeting held last evening met this evening. A portion of the committee calling themselves moderates, are in favor of demanding an armistice from the President, with a view to peace, regarding the emancipation of the rebels as impossible. Another portion are in favor of demanding the Governor to immediately withdraw the troops from this State from the field. They say the troops were enlisted by the administration on a fraudulent pretence, and justice demands that they should be withdrawn. If the Governor refuses to do so, he is to be compelled to do it. You may set it down that the leading aspirants among the Democrats are for a revolution in the state rather than a longer continuance of the war. The opposition to the proclamation is a mere pretence—the Democrats have been opposed to the war from the start. They think the present the best opportunity for arresting it. A man is not now afraid to say he is a K. G. C. Your correspondent might call every Democrat in the House a Knight of the Golden Circle, and they would only laugh at him. Good joke!

THE EXPIRING ENLISTMENTS IN THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

A correspondent of the New York *World* thus writes from Burnside's army about the troops there whose terms of enlistment are soon to expire:

Officers and soldiers who count the days and weeks and months of their term of service are conscious of what some of the people are not, viz: that the whole brilliant army of six hundred thousand men which marched into the field at the outbreak of the rebellion is, on the average, now on the last half of its term of service, and that at least fifty of the regiments (two years' men) will march homeward before the first of next June.

We figure eight hundred thousand men—on paper; but the morning reports of the armies belie the statement. We speak of our brigades, and divisions, and corps and number their thousands by the number of regiments; but—the men to make them are not there. The only place where eight hundred thousand men can be found is on the pay rolls. And the Government is to-day paying more men *out of the army*, in hospital, on authorized or unauthorized leave of absence, and on special or unauthorized detached service, than it is men in the ranks, doing regular duty. Half of every regiment is paid on descriptive lists, procured by men in hospital and elsewhere from their company officers, and forwarded to their paymasters.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY BREAKING UP.

A Washington telegram, of the 16th, in the New York *Herald*, says:

There is much caucussing and consultation by the Republicans in Committee of the Whole on the state of the party, upon the best means of preserving their political organization from destruction. They talk of reorganizing the party, but in what manner does not yet appear. Greeley has been extremely busy. He is not organizing black brigades, as has been supposed, but reorganizing the Republican party. Some of the leading radicals who were in consultation with him last night shake their heads ominously, and declare that this is the darkest day the country has yet seen.—Prominent Republicans acknowledge that they have lost their hold upon power in all except some New England States. Some of them predict peace as early as next June.

REQUIEM MASS FOR THE FALLEN OF THE IRISH BRIGADE.

A requiem mass was said at the cathedral in New York on the 16th inst., for the souls of the Irish of Meagher's brigade, who sacked the city of Fredericksburg and paid for it with their lives the next day. An immense congregation was present. The scene is thus described by the New York *Herald*:

The cathedral was itself a monument of sorrow, clad in the hues of mourning. Funeral tapers lighted the antependeum, and from altar to tabernacle dispelled the gloom which nature itself seemed to have thrown around the occasion.

The mid aisle of the church was kept vacant for the honored remains of the dead. In the centre of the cathedral the memorial catafalque was erected, covered by a velvet pall, which, as usual, was ornamented by a white cross. Twelve immense tapers illumined the hallowed tenement in which the remains of the brave sons of Erin slept. On either side of the catafalque stood a guard of honor, consisting of twenty marines. Two officers officiated as acolytes.

An immense crowd of people had early gathered, and speedily filled up the pews and crowded the side aisles. A little after ten o'clock several officers of the Irish brigade passed up the aisle. Brig. Gen. Meagher heading the cortege, followed immediately by the gallant Nugent, presenting in worn looks and a halting step the proofs of his valor and devotion to country on the ensanguined field of Fredericksburg. Who more honorably or characteristically than Nugent could represent Irish valor or Irish fidelity? Through the kindness of Capt Meade, the excellent band of the North Carolina guard-ship were present, and assisted in the musical portion of the ceremony.

The "Dies Irae" was beautifully rendered by the choir. At the close of the celebration of the mass the Rev. Father O'Reilly ascended the pulpit and delivered the funeral oration—an eloquent and beautiful tribute to the gallantry and heroism of the fallen heroes of the Irish brigade.

After the sermon a dirge was performed, during which the clergy and attendant acolytes marched from the high altar to the catafalque in the centre aisle in the following order: Acolytes, with Thurible and Navicular; Acolyte, with holy water; Subdeacons, with cross; taper bearers on either side; the clergy, in double file.

The "Requiem Æternum" was then pronounced, after which arose the solemn strains of the "Requiescat in pace," when the large congregation dispersed.

LINCOLN UNDER HIS TROUBLES.

Lincoln is said to be "growing gray" under his troubles. The editor of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, who saw him out recently in public, writes:

The President and his wife visited the Capitol on Saturday to look at the new buildings. The President's face in repose has a careworn expression that seems to appeal for sympathy. He may find a good many things yet that remind him of stories he heard in Illinois and the stories may not be remarkably sober or neat, but no one can look in his face and believe that he is insensible to the responsibilities pressing upon him. I know he has had a doleful sort of physiognomy, but his features were not two years ago, the pale and pinched appearance that they now wear. Those who see him often say that his hair is turning gray rapidly.

MISCELLANEOUS.

There was a heavy snow storm all through Canada on the 16th inst.

The steamer Mary Boardman, with troops, from New Orleans for Galveston, got news of the rebel capture of that place and turned back, thus saving the boat and men.

The Supreme Court of Wisconsin has sustained the writ of habeas corpus in the case of the Oswego rioters, arrested for forcibly resisting the draft.

Hon Lot M. Morrill (Republican) has been re-elected United States Senator from Maine by the Legislature of that State.

Gisse, Elliott & Co., of London, are about contracting with the United States Government to lay submarine cables along the coast from New York to New Orleans.

In the U. S. Senate last week Senator Wilson sent to the Clerk's desk, to be read, a letter which was addressed to him by General Meigs. The reading of a few sentences produced such a commotion that it was stopped, and the letter withdrawn by Mr. Wilson. The letter was very abusive of Senators who had expressed suspicions of Meigs's loyalty.

Senator Foster, of Connecticut, introduced in the U. S. Senate a resolution looking to legislation to import from Europe persons to supply the void made in industrial occupations by enlistments into the Union armies.

Several of the gamblers who were taken before an Ohio court, on a writ of habeas corpus, were taken to Cincinnati on Thursday, by a military guard, Lincoln telegraphing to pay no attention to the writ of habeas corpus. They next day paid over the amount of money won by them from Cook. The probabilities are now that the Government will get back all the $2,000.

Tom Thumb's marriage to little Lavinia Warren weighing 32 pounds, as invented, ordered, prescribed, and engineered by the all-pervading Barnum, is officially announced to take place on the 10th of next month at a fashionable up-town church in New York. Gorgeous cards of invitation will be issued to local aristocracy and to the friends and relatives of the parties, admitting them to the sanctuary, and also to the subsequent "reception" of the happy pair at one of the hotels. After the reception the bridal party will start for Philadelphia, there to rest themselves until they shall be ready for Baltimore and Washington. To make the "sensation" particularly striking, the ceremonies will be conducted with all the pomp and circumstance of a full-grown "diamond wedding," especial liveries being employed to extol the beauty of the bride's complexion, dress, and ornaments, the magnificence of the bridegroom, and the superlative aristocracy of the equipages attendant.

A Yankee Raid into Southwestern Virginia.

[CORRESPONDENCE OF THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.]

PRINCETON, VA., Jan. 14, 1863.

Last week 112 Yankee cavalry attempted a raid which, in point of audacity, equalled that on Bristol, and came near being as successful. Their aim was to destroy the bridge across New river, about six miles east of Dublin Depot. They came by way of Sewell Mountain, Meadow Bluff, Blue Sulphur, Alderson's Ferry, through Monroe county, to the line of Giles county, on Peters Mountain, nineteen miles from the bridge. At this point they were accidentally met by four or five soldiers, who fired upon them, when they turned back and effected their escape by way of Red Sulphur and Rollins's Ferry. It is believed they were informed by their scouts about the time they reached Peters's Mountain that there was a force at the bridge, or they would not have turned back. Some 600 soldiers, returning from Bristol the day before, had been stationed there. As the scamps passed through Centreville they cheered lustily for Jeff. Davis, and were mistaken by many of the citizens for Confederate cavalry. They passed between the troops at the Salt Sulphur and Narrows going and returning. Col. Wharton attempted to intercept them, but was about one hour too late, he having no cavalry. They seemed to be in no particular hurry, but took it quite leisurely, stopping to eat and sleep as they saw fit. Is it not remarkable that, with all the force we have in this section, these marauders should not have encountered a single picket or boom halted at all? The fact was, the route pursued by them was open to the bridge. Another party of 250 cavalry kept on in the direction of Lewisburg, burning Austin Handley's elegant mansion, near town, Col Sam'l McClung's barn, and firing Bugger's fine manufacturing mill. They halted on reaching the top of the hill overlooking Lewisburg, and, discovering our troops there, beat a hasty retreat. Their intention was to burn the place, at least they so declared. These troops were from Malden, in the Kanawha Valley, and, if I am not deceived, this demonstration is but a prelude to something of the "same sort," but of a more imposing character, not far off.

A REBEL.

FROM NASSAU, N. P.—An arrival at Charleston, S. C., bring Nassau dates to the 10th inst. Rev. Moses D. Hoge, of Richmond, had arrived there safely, and would shortly sail for England.

Sam Whiting, U. S. Consul at Nassau, had been recalled, on complaint of the Governor, for getting drunk and abusing Queen Victoria and her subjects in a violent manner. A Mr. Doty, of the staff of Gov. Morgan, of New York, has been appointed his successor. Sam published a card before he left thanking some friends for a serenade of U. S. national tunes, which "were *so rarely* heard in Nassau."

A citizen of Charleston, S. C., who reached Nassau a few days since, thus writes to the *Courier*:

The sentiment appears to be all one way; the natives of the North living here are mostly pro-Southern, or at least in favor of peace; and, more strange than all, the negroes—the victims of British "freedom"—throw up their hats for "Dixie." I have talked with a number of intelligent Northern gentlemen here and have found them vehemently opposed to Lincoln and his war policy. Among the British, as at home on their own Island, there is scarcely a dissentient from the popular current of feeling. A surprising and gratifying illustration of this was afforded upon our arrival at Nassau. As we approached the town flags on the British vessels in the harbor dipped to our Confederate Stars and Bars, and as we neared a large war vessel lying at anchor we received the same courtesy. Near the frigate was a tender, filled with a portion of its crew, at least fifty in number. As we returned the salute the gallant man-of-warmen broke forth with the "Bonnie Blue Flag," which they sang with a loudness and spirit that did credit to their heads and hearts. As they shouted the last refrain—

"Hurrah! hurrah!
For *Southern rights*, hurrah!
Hurrah! for the 'Bonnie Blue Flag'
That bears the single star"—

the thrill that passed through our band of exiles, as we stood on the deck of our vessel, involuntarily brought one hands together in applause. I died upon finding, that the "Bonnie Blue Flag," as well as "Dixie," and "My Maryland," are the only ditties used by the piano players and street boys. As I write a small darkie under my window is giving the world vocal assurance of his determination to "live and die in Dixie."

GOVERNMENT COTTON IN MISSISSIPPI.—The total amount of cotton purchased by the Government in the State of Mississippi reaches about one hundred thousand bales and much more is in negotiation.

CONFEDERATE STATES CONGRESS.

WEDNESDAY, January 21, 1863.

SENATE.—The Senate met at 12 o'clock M., Hon. R. M. T. Hunter in the chair. Prayer by Rev. Dr. Dawson, of the M. E. Church.

Mr. Phelan offered a resolution providing that hereafter the Senate will assemble at 11 o'clock A. M., and adjourn at 3 o'clock P. M., which was considered, the rules requiring it to lay over one day being dispensed with. A lengthy debate arose upon the resolution, at the conclusion of which it was disagreed to.

Mr. Phelan then offered a resolution fixing the hour of adjournment at 3 o'clock P. M. until further ordered; which, after much debate, was also disagreed to.

Mr. Phelan offered another resolution providing that the Senate meet at 11 o'clock A. M., adjourn at 2 o'clock P. M., and reassemble at 7 o'clock P. M. This was also argued at length, and finally disagreed to.

Mr. Clarke, of Missouri, moved to reconsider the vote adopting the report of the select committee on the reorganization of the standing committees, and asked that the motion be entered on the Journal, which was ordered.

Mr. Wigfall, of Texas, introduced an act to provide for the organization of Engineer troops to serve during the war. The bill provides for the selection of the troops, in such manner as the Secretary of War may direct, from each division of infantry in service, one company of Engineer troops, to consist of one hundred men each, chosen on account of their mechanical skill and physical strength, to be organized into regiments of ten companies of each, two companies to be assigned to each regiment as pontoniers, and to be provided with boats, wagons, &c. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Senate then went into secret session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—House met at the usual hour. Prayer by Rev. Dr. Doggett.

The Chair announced that the business before the House was the consideration of the joint resolutions offered on Monday, by the gentleman from Alabama, Mr. Clopton, in relation to turning over captured Federal officers to the State Governments for trial under State law.

Mr. Foote, of Tennessee, being entitled to the floor, addressed the House in support of the resolutions, and proceeded to define at length the character of the war in which we are now engaged. He declared it to be one upon sovereign States and was commenced and prosecuted for the destruction of an institution which was exclusively under the control of the States. Nothing could be more proper, therefore, than turn over all these prisoners of war to the State Governments as violators of State laws. He was also in favor of this course of disposing of captured officers upon grounds of policy. There would be more dignity and decorum in this course of inflicting punishment than in executing them summarily on the field when captured. If the matter was turned over to the State authorities there would be regular trials, and every opportunity would be given the culprits to vindicate themselves against the charges which would be brought against them. He was one of the warmest advocates of the President's policy on this subject. He had been an earnest supporter of the policy of retaliation at the last session, and had not since changed his views in the least. We could not do otherwise than declare distinctly that we would hold responsible every man who invaded our soil to carry out the mandates of the wretch, Abraham Lincoln. He who had issued that infamous proclamation, and his aiders and abettors, would be held as criminals by posterity. Any other mode of retaliation than that proposed by the President, he believed, would greatly aggravate the character of the war and outrage the sensibilities of the civilized world. At the conclusion of his remarks the joint resolutions were referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Curry, of Ala., introduced a bill to amend an act entitled an act to secure copy rights to authors and composers—referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Also, a resolution that the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of continuing the pay of soldiers and seamen discharged from service on account of wounds received in engagements with the enemy, until the expiration of their term of service—agreed to.

Mr. Foster, of Ala., offered a resolution that the Committee on Quartermaster and Commissary Departments be instructed to ascertain (as nearly as practicable) the number of able-bodied young men who are now engaged as principals and agents in each of those Departments, and to report by bill or otherwise as to the best and most speedy mode of placing all such in the ranks, and supplying their places with men over the consecript age, and with discharged soldiers—agreed to. Also, a resolution that the Military Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of abolishing, in part, or in whole, camps of instruction—agreed to.

Mr. Clifton, of Ala., introduced a bill to return to the State of Alabama the sum paid by such State for the Mexican Florida; referred to Committee on Claims. Also, a resolution that the President, if not deemed by him inconsistent with the public interest, cause to be transmitted to this House, at the earliest practicable moment, copies of all written evidence of, or relating to, any contract or contracts, and of any change or modification thereof, for supplying the Government with flour, made with Messrs. Hazall, Crenshaw & Co; and that, in like manner, he cause to be transmitted to the House copies of any contracts made during the present winter with the Government for supplies of ice. Agreed to.

Mr. Smith, of Ala., introduced a resolution to instruct the Military Committee to inquire into the expediency of adopting some mode by which wounded and disabled soldiers may be furloughed or discharged, and to report to this House by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Miles, of S. C., from Committee on Military Affairs, called up the special order of the day, (House bill No. 2,) to declare what persons shall be exempt from military service. The following is a copy of the bill:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That from and after the passage of this act all white male residents of the Confederate States, between the ages of eighteen and forty five, except those constituting the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial authorities of the Confederate States, and of the several States composing the Confederacy, are, and shall be, liable to military duty in the service of the Confederate States, and shall be duly enrolled in the case, in accordance with existing laws, and all laws and parts of laws exempting any persons between the said ages of eighteen and forty five years are hereby repealed: *Provided*, That the Secretary of War shall upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by him, and with the approval of the President, exempt from all military service, or detail for specified purposes, such person or persons as, with the approval of the President, he may deem essential for the good of the service, or the general interests of the country: and, *Provided, further*, That the enrollment of persons between forty and forty five years of age shall be suspended until the President shall call such persons into the military service.

Mr. Miles addressed the House in support of the bill as reported by the committee.

Mr. Collier offered as a substitute for the bill of the committee a bill designating certain classes of persons who shall be exempt from service. In support of this substitute Mr. Collier addressed the House.

Mr. Bargan, of Ala., offered as a proviso, to come in at the end of the original bill, the following: "*Provided, however*, That such judicial and executive officers of any State, who by the laws thereof are, or may be, liable to perform military service, shall not be exempted by virtue of this act."

Mr. Holt, of Ga., spoke in support of the original bill, and Messrs Clarke of Ga., Clapp of Miss., and Conrad of La., in opposition to it. The latter gentleman moved to recommit the bill to the Committee on Military Affairs, with instructions to frame a bill specifying the classes of persons to be exempted.

Mr. Gartrell, of Ga., offered the following amendment: "*Provided*, That no person shall be enrolled who has a substitute in the army, furnished in accordance with orders heretofore issued by the Secretary of War.

Other amendments were offered by Messrs. Foote of Tenn., Graham of Texas, Chambliss of Va., and Lyon and Foster of Ala; which the Chair decided would go to the committee with the bill, in the event the motion to recommit prevailed.

The vote was then taken on the motion to recommit, and resulted—ayes 34 nays 24, on a division.

Mr. Miles, of S. C., demanded the ayes and nays; pending which, on motion of Mr. Jones, of Tenn., the House went into secret session, to have read a message of the President.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.

WEDNESDAY, January 21, 1863.

SENATE.—The Senate was called to order at 12 o'clock, by Lieut.-Gov. Montague, and opened with prayer by Rev. C. H. Read.

The Senate was notified that the House had agreed to the final resolution of the Senate, relative to an increase of per diem of members at the next session.

The bill to amend the 12th section, chapter 19, of the Code, so as to extend the time for filing complaints in cases of contested elections, was taken up and passed.

Mr. Nesson presented a memorial of Capt. John Righter, and others, officers of the Virginia Rangers, remonstrating against their transfer to any other service. Referred to the Committee on Confederate Relations.

Mr. Bruce, of Halifax, offered a resolution of inquiry into the expediency of reporting a bill authorizing the Roanoke Valley Railroad Company to foreclose the mortgage on their road from Clarksville to the Raleigh and Gaston road.

On motion of Mr. Carson, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.—The House was called to order at 12 o'clock M., by the Speaker. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Pollard, of the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Hamlin moved to take up the unfinished business of yesterday, relative to the taxation of the growth of tobacco, which was agreed to. After various amendments had been offered by Messrs. Foote of Tenn., Graham of Texas, Chambliss of Va., and Lyon and Foster of Ala; which the Chair decided would go to the committee with the bill, in the event the motion to recommit prevailed.

The vote was then taken on the motion to recommit, and resulted—ayes 34 nays 24, on a division.

Mr. Miles, of S. C., demanded the ayes and nays; pending which, on motion of Mr. Jones, of Tenn., the House went into secret session, to have read a message of the President.

Desperate Fight of Forrest—A Treacherous Enemy.

The Huntsville *Advocate* gives the particulars of a desperate fight which Gen. Forrest had at Parker's Cross Roads, about thirty miles northwest of Lexington, Tenn., on the 31st ult., while was returning from his successful expedition in West Tennessee. He met seven full regiments of Abolitionists, who raised the white flag in token of surrender:

"He approached to receive their arms when an other heavy column of ten regiments came on his flank and rear and began to fire on his men, and the portion who had raised the white flag treacherously joined in the firing. The gallant Forrest and his brave men returned the fire vigorously. They had only ten rounds of ammunition, and six rounds and then fought their way out, with a loss of 500 in killed, wounded and missing. The killed are estimated at about 50, the wounded at 150 to 200—the rest are prisoners. The wounded also fell into the hands of the enemy.

"It is said that, in fighting their way out, our brave troops massed themselves in solid column and charged the enemy's column that had come upon their rear. The chief and intrepid Forrest rallied in the rear to collect his scattered men and bring them out, and the enemy closed up their column after most of Forrest's men had passed through and they near catching him. He escaped by jumping at full speed along a rather and sapping his horse over a ten rail fence. One who witnessed his escape said that the last he saw of Forrest he was flying over the fence, lying flat on his horse, and hundreds of bullets were flying after him. One bullet passed through his hat. Strange to say, not one man was lost in falling their way out.

"Forrest went over with about 3,500 men, and came back with about 3,000. Besides losing 500 men, one of his mount in howitzers burst in the last fight, and the enemy captured three, leaving him six cannon, his original number. He crossed the Tennessee river at and near Clifton, Tenn., a little northwest of Lexington, on Monday night and Friday morning, and encamped at Clifton until Sunday morning. The enemy came, 8,000 strong, Saturday afternoon, and forced a fight or battle, and some fighting took place across the river, which was 300 yards wide. Forrest brought his artillery to bear on the shell in its and they retired."

HIEDMAN'S ADDRESS TO HIS TROOPS BEFORE THE BATTLE OF CANE HILL, ARKANSAS.—The following address of General Hindman will be found interesting:

HEADQ'RS 1ST CORPS, TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ARMY, IN THE FIELD, Dec. 4, 1862.

SOLDIERS: From the commencement to the end of the battle bear constantly in mind what I now impress upon you:

1. Never fire because your comrades do, nor because the enemy does, nor because you happen to see the enemy, nor for the sake of firing rapidly. Always wait until you are certainly within the range of your guns, then single out your man, take deliberate aim, as low down as the knee, and fire.

2. When occasion offers, be certain to pick off the enemy's officers, especially the mounted ones, and to kill his artillery horses.

3. Don't shoot except when you charge the enemy—as a general thing keep silent, that orders may be heard. Obey the orders of your officers, but pay no attention to idle rumors, on the word of unauthorized persons.

4. Don't stop with your wounded comrade; the surgeons and infirmary corps will take care of him; do you go forward and avenge him.

5. Don't break ranks to plunder; if we whip the enemy, all he has will be ours; if not, the spoils will be of no benefit to us. Plunderers and smugglers will be put to death on the spot. Pile-drivers are especially charged with this duty. The cavalry in rear will have ample attend to it.

Remember, that the enemy you engage has no feeling of mercy or kindness toward you. His ranks are made up of Fin Indians, free negroes, Southern tories, Kansas Jayhawkers, and hired Dutch cut-throats.

These bloody ruffians have invaded your country, stolen and destroyed your property, murdered your neighbors, outraged our women, driven your children from their homes, and dotted the graves of your kindred. If each man of you will do what I have urged upon you, we will utterly destroy them. We can do this; we must do it; our country will be ruined if we fail.

A just God will strengthen our arms and give us a glorious victory.

T. C. HINDMAN,
Major-General Commanding.

R. C. Newton, A. A. General.

GEN. PEMBERTON TO THE TROOPS.—The following is the order of Gen. Pemberton, congratulating the troops for their repulse at Vicksburg. The compliment is highly merited:

HDQ'RS DEP'T MISS. AND EAST LOUISIANA, Vicksburg, Jan. 3, 1863.

General Orders, No. —.

The Lieutenant-General commanding the Department desires to express to the troops of this command his high appreciation of their recent gallant defence of this important position. All praise is due them, not alone for so bravely repulsing the renewed assaults of an enemy vastly superior in numbers, but equally for the observant and patient endurance with which they have submitted to the hardships and exposure incident to ten successive days and nights of watchfulness in the Rebuttes, rendered imperatively necessary by the close proximity of the opposing armies. While all have performed their duties with benefit to their country and honor to themselves, still, as must ever be the lot in war, fortune has bestowed her opportunities unequally—to those who, by her favor, held the posts of honor, by their own resolute courage availed themselves of their opportunities, expected thanks are due; and it will be the pride and agreeable duty of the Lieutenant-General commanding, to inform the troops from their country the distinction and honor they have so justly deserved.

J. C. PEMBERTON,
Lieutenant-General Commanding.

TERRIBLE DEATH OF THE WIFE OF FARINI, THE ROPE WALKER.—A terrible and heart-rending catastrophe occurred in Havana on the 5th ultimo, at the Plaza Tetra Bull-Ring. Mr. Farini, the celebrated tight rope walker, and great of Blondin, attempted, among the many wonders that he would perform on the tight rope, the carrying of his wife across the rope stretched from one side of the ring to the other, at the height of about sixty feet, upon his back—a feat he had performed in other places. He started with the lady upon his back, and had nearly finished his journey across, within about four feet, when the audience applauded the daring act, in so energetic a manner as to cause her husband to catch her, as she was falling.

This he attempted to do, and caught her by the skirt of her dress, but the frail fabric was not of sufficient strength to sustain her when the impetus given to her descent by her fall, and, the force of the dress gave way, leaving a pi