The Daily Dispatch.

The DISPATCH is published DAILY (Sundays excepted.) Price by mailing $10 a year; or $5 for six months; $3 for one month $2—in advance.

The SEMI-WEEKLY DISPATCH is issued every TUESDAY and FRIDAY, at $6—in advance.

The WEEKLY DISPATCH is issued every FRIDAY, and mailed to subscribers at $1 per annum.

DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XXIV. RICHMOND, VA., WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 27, 1863. NO. 126.

WEDNESDAY MORNING..MAY 27, 1863.

Vallandigham - What will Lincoln Do?

The sympathizers in New York have made a direct appeal to the Washington Dictator to let Vallandigham loose, reminding him that they look upon the arrest and trial of the Ohio statesman as a violation of the Constitution and laws of the United States. The resolutions in which this conclusion is asserted were the formally adopted opinions of immense meetings, at which sentiments stronger than those in the resolutions themselves were freely uttered—sentiments, indeed, more violent and offensive to the Federal Executive than those uttered by Vallandigham, for which he has been sent to Fort Warren. Letters addressed to the officers of the meeting, especially that of Governor Seymour's, assert that if the proceedings in Vallandigham's case remain as the judgment and final decision by the Government, that they have beyond question already established at the North a complete military despotism. The New York *Herald*, which has been playing fast and loose, endeavoring to keep with the Administration and the people too—having a very great consideration for both its editorial neck and its editorial fisc—is constrained to declare its own disapprobation of the course of the Government in regard to Vallandigham. It is, no doubt, forced to this by popular feeling as well as the sentiment of the press. The *Herald* could not withhold its disapproval of such a high-handed exercise of power, when even the *Tribune* and the *Evening Post*, negro-worshipping Black Republicans, declared their opinions decidedly in opposition to it. The following expression thereon, from the *Herald* of the 20th, may be taken as indicative of the popular view of this matter at least in New York:

"If General Burnside on his own responsibility initiated these late military proceedings against Mr. Vallandigham, he has foolishly dashed himself against a stone wall much more difficult to carry than that along the heights of Fredericksburg. If he has acted under instructions from Washington, the Administration has committed the grave mistake. In either event it is within the power of President Lincoln to reverse these proceedings, and to turn over the accused to the civil authorities. The Northern elections of last autumn involved a serious warning from the loyal States against these arbitrary arrests—a warning which, it was hoped, had put an end to them. Under this conviction the people of the several States concerned in our spring elections rose up to sustain the Administration and the war against all the peace clamors of the Copperheads. In Connecticut, where those agitators were the most numerous and violent, they were most signally defeated.—But this Vallandigham affair furnishes the very capital to these Democratic radicals which they have so much desired, and puts them in a constitutional position from which they cannot be displaced. The public sentiment of New York, and of all the loyal States, on this point is with them, and the Administration must quash these military proceedings against Vallandigham, and recognize the validity of the civil law in the loyal States, or there will be civil war in the North."

Will Lincoln "quash" them and "prevent civil war," according to the *Herald*? or, if he will not "quash" them, will "civil war" ensue? If we could reason about a Yankee as we can about other men, we would say that Lincoln would be compelled to "quash" the sentence, or to go on with his arrests, and to put in his bastiles not only the small men who made the excited speeches in New York city on the 19th, but Governor Seymour and Washington Hunt and their brother sympathizers generally. It sedition is to be put down by arbitrary arrests, then those arrests must go on. If he abandons that policy, then he must let loose Vallandigham. To keep him in prison and arrest no more men, would be but showing his own hesitation and fear of the consequences. To refuse to liberate him will only continue the cause of the excitement and that immunity to seditious declaimers which his failure to arrest them gives. Lincoln has most assuredly now a difficult road to travel. Hesitation is dangerous. To keep Vallandigham in prison and arrest no more men, will only raise the storm of popular feeling higher, and may elect him Governor of Ohio, and then comes a troublesome issue. To go on consistently, with a high hand, like a true despot, as he desires to be, he must arrest all the leading sympathizers, and, if the people rise, put them down with the bayonet. But would they rise? Again, were they like other people, we could say that they would. But the Yankees are so peculiar, and have so often disappointed all reasonable human expectations, that we would not hazard an opinion upon the subject. We all must wait the issue of the present storm, whether it be a tea-pot tempest or not.

Since the foregoing article was in type, (it having been deferred for some days,) news has been received that the Federal Dictator has commuted the sentence of Mr. Vallandigham to transportation through the lines of his military occupation to the South! The Dictator evidently falters. He hopes to escape a possible issue with a part of the Northern people by exiling his victim. But the subterfuge will not avail him if those who have taken action against his summary military proceedings are sincere and courageous. His attempt to avoid an issue will, in that case, but the more strongly determine them to press it. The New York *Herald* sees this, evidently; for it declares, in its date of the 22d, that the modification of the penalty imposed on Vallandigham makes the crime of his arrest and trial "a still greater crime." It proceeds: "The Government has only aggravated "its fault. If it had a right to commute a pun "ishment it had a right to inflict it, which is "the point in dispute. The tyrannical privi-"leges assumed by Burnside are reaffirmed by "a variation of the sentence, which violates "just as glaringly the constitutional rights of "the citizen. This is an aggravation instead "of a palliation of the blunder already com "mitted, and will tend to multiply the difficul-"ties by which the Administration is already "beset."

Also, since the article above referred to was in type, we have the proceedings of another meeting in New York, whose resolves are bolder and more defiant than any yet adopted by Northern meetings. They increase the embarrassments of Lincoln and press more decidedly upon him the necessity of carrying out his policy of military arrests for sedition, or of abandoning them altogether. He can neither quiet clamor by exiling Vallandigham nor intimidate sedition by simply refusing to liberate him. He must go ahead or back out. Each day is increasing the number of prominent men incurring the penalties of such an order as Burnside's.

Mr. Vallandigham's Exile.

The transportation of the Hon. C. L. Vallandigham to the Southern Confederacy is an act of very cool impudence on the part of Lincoln. His attempt to make these States a sink of Botany Bay, to which to send condemned persons, is in keeping with his general policy of repudiating all law, all right, and all propriety in his proceedings. We apprehend our Government will raise a question on this point. Lincoln ought not to be allowed to palm off on a sovereign State a number of persons convicted under his military process in this manner. He should be forced to dispose of them within the jurisdiction. Let him buy a bit of land for a penal colony, if he has any money that will pass abroad, or can command credit enough for that purpose. If he cannot, he has prisons enough at home. He should not be allowed to send his condemned subjects here; if for no better reason, we should not permit him in that way to seek to avoid the issue raised by his own people touching the constitutionality and lawfulness of the proceedings in the case of Vallandigham.

NEW ORLEANS REFUGEES.—The people of Mobile have exerted themselves most energetically and humanely to provide for the transportation from Pascagoula and shelter in their city of the large number of refugees which the barbarous edict of the Yankee Government has driven from New Orleans. It was estimated that they numbered from *five to six thousand!* They embrace all ages, sexes, and conditions of life. It would take many days, and the Mobile *Register* says possibly weeks, to remove them from their place of landing on Pascagoula bay to the city. Such a scene of wholesale exile has not been witnessed in modern times. It carries back the world to barbarous ages, and exhibits the Yankee nation in the light of one of the most cruel, unrelenting, and brutal of the races of men that have flourished in any age.

CROPS.—A refugee from Holly Springs (Dr. Matthews) recently arrived at Huntsville, Ala., reports that in the distance of 500 miles which he travelled through North Mississippi and Middle and North Alabama he never saw such a breadth of land in wheat or crops in finer condition. The editor of the Huntsville *Confederate* states that this report accords with his own observation in a journey into Georgia, South Carolina, and East Alabama.

FROM VICKSBURG.

The accounts which we publish this morning from Vicksburg are hopeful, if not cheering. The spirit and success with which our forces have met the repeated assaults of the enemy gives encouragement to the belief that the beleagnered city will be able to withstand all the efforts being made for her reduction. The assurance of Gen Stevenson, who is next in command to Lieut.-Gen. Pemberton, is decidedly gratifying, and exhibits confidence in the men and means at command.

YANKEE OUTRAGES IN NEW KENT.

On Saturday afternoon last, between 5 and 6 o'clock, a portion of the command of Gen. Wise, consisting of artillery and infantry, went down in New Kent county as far as the York river. A few miles below West Point they fired on a Federal mail boat that was passing, striking her some two or three times—one shell exploding on her decks. What injury was inflicted is not known, but considerable confusion was created on board. The fire was not returned.

Later in the evening the enemy's gunboats came down the river from West Point, and, after shelling the woods in the neighborhood and finding that our troops had retired, their crews landed, and, in a spirit of vindictive retaliation, burned the residences of three gentlemen in the neighborhood. The sufferers were Messrs. E. B. Lacy, W. T. Blassingham, and —— Drake—the latter overseer on the farm of Mr. James Woodhouse, of this city. None of the parties upon whom these injuries were inflicted saved any of their household effects, and Mr. Lacy had not even time allowed him to secure his money, which was, with everything else that he had, destroyed.

VAN-DORN'S SUCCESSOR.

It is reported that Gen. Forrest has been assigned to the command of Van-Dorn's division. He assumes command temporarily, until a permanent successor is appointed. Gen. Forrest, it is said, prefers to command his old brigade. He would doubtless prove a worthy successor to Van-Dorn, and would, by his indomitable energy, win new laurels for that corps. Gen. F. and staff arrived at Shelbyville, Tenn., on the 14th inst.

CONFISCATIONS IN WASHINGTON.—In addition to those already mentioned in this paper are the following cases of confiscation of property in Washington city:

The Marshal of the District of Columbia has seized the real and personal estate of the following-named individuals: C. W. C. Dunnington, Dr. Cornelius Boyle, Dr. Garnett, (son-in-law of Governor Wise) Edward A. Pollard, Major C. S. Wallach, Lawyer Ratcliffe, Francis Hanno, Commodore Forrest, William Shields, Edward M. Clark, Martin L. Smith, Samuel Lee, and several others. Gen. Carrington, United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, is rapidly maturing legal proceedings against the property of all persons who have left their homes and joined the so-called Southern Confederacy.

The Marshal of the District seized the following property of persons in rebel service, under the provisions of the Confiscation act: The whole square, five hundred and ninety, with the exception of lot No. 5, situated between Delaware avenue and Second street, west of H and I streets, both belonging to General Lee.

General Carrington (the well-known Capt. Carrington, formerly of this city,) enjoys very much his official privilege of despoiling the property of his former fellow-citizens. There is a sort of infernal satisfaction derived by the unfaithful from inflicting injury upon the faithful.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

TUESDAY, May 26, 1863.

SPECIE AND NOTES.—The rates continue to advance, although the stock to operate with is very light, and the business consequently insignificant. The brokers to-day were offering $5 premium for gold and $4 75 for silver, and asking $5 50 premium for gold and $5 25 for silver—market firm. For bank notes they were offering 70 per cent, and asking 80—a further advance.

BONDS AND STOCKS.—The sales of the past week by Messrs. Lancaster & Co. indicate the following range of prices: Confederate bonds, 100 m, 103 to 109 and int, according to date; do, 8 per cent convertibles, 110 and int; do do, 15 m, 190 and int; do do, sevens, 100 and int; Va reg'd bonds 112 and in'; City of Richmond do 135; North Carolina sixes (old) 179; Missouri sixes 170; Va Cent R R bonds, 1st mort, 130 and int; Orange and Alex R R eights 110 and int; do do sixes 110 and in'; Richmond and York River R R bonds, eights, 110 and int; Va and Tenn R R, 3d mort, 110 and int; Farmers' Bank stock 125; Exchange Bank 125; Bank of Va 87½; Richmond and Danville R R stock 125; R, F & P R R do 110; Imp'g and Exp'g Co 800.

PRODUCE, PROVISIONS, &c.—Wheat—nothing doing; we quote it nominal at $6 50 to 7 per bushel. Flour—superfine $30 to 32, extra $35, family $37.50. Corn—the market is almost bare; we continue to quote at $9 to 9 50. Corn Meal scarce and in demand at $10 to 11 per bushel. Bacon $1.45 to 1 50 for hoground. Lard $1 60 per lb. Butter $3 to 3 25. Salt 45 to 50c. per lb. Rice dull at 18 to 25c. Soap—a good article brings 70 to 80c. Candles $3.25 to 3 50. Hay $12 per cwt. Sheaf Oats the same. Irish Potatoes $8 to 9 per bushel.

GROCERIES.—Sugar continues high under the news received from Vicksburg last Friday, and speculators seem to have everything their own way. We quote brown firm at $1.50 per lb. Molasses $11 per gallon. Coffee $3.25 to 4 per lb. Tea $7 50 to 10 per lb.

TOBACCO.—Nothing doing in leaf for two days past. Manufactured, 70c to $2 25 per lb, as to quality; smoking, 60c to $1.25; a fancy article, $1.50.

LIQUORS.—Brandy, $4; Upper, $5.50 to $6; Hennessy, $4.25 per lb. Gin, $2 to $2 25 per gal. Whiskey, $2 to $2.25, the last figure for an extra article. French brandy, $10 per gal.

BOLD PEACE RESOLUTIONS.

Important Meeting in New York - A Demand for Peace—The Government Again Denounced for Vallandigham's Arrest and Sentence.

It appears that another meeting besides that whose resolutions we published on Saturday has been held in New York city on the subjects of the proceedings in the case of Mr. Vallandigham and of the war. The resolves adopted by this meeting are the boldest yet put forth by any Northern community. They are unconditionally opposed to the war, and in favor of immediate peace. They denounce the Administration in unqualified terms, and reprobate in the strongest language its invasion of personal liberty in the proceedings against Vallandigham. They further disclaim the action of the leading Democrats of Albany in putting forth an address whose sentiments on the subject of the war are obnoxious to those who adopted these resolutions. The speeches on the occasion were bold and defiant. They contain none of the cant against the rebellion which has been indulged by prominent Northern politicians disapproving of the proceedings against Vallandigham—and they show no truckling to the despotism at Washington by claiming credit for helping on the war! The resolutions and the speakers were for once consistent and manly. The reader will be struck with the brave and telling speech of Mr. James Brooks, who entitles himself to our admiration. The resolutions and the abstracts of the speeches follow:

Resolved, That we reiterate our opposition to this bloody, relentless, unnecessary, and fruitless war. In our opinion *it is time that the whole American people North and South should demand of their rulers its immediate discontinuance.*

Resolved, That the arrest and detention of the Hon. Clement L. Vallandigham, of Ohio, upon a military order, as a punishment for the exercise of the right of free speech in popular discussion (which is no offence under the laws of the land) is another step toward absolute despotism. We denounce this act, by whomsoever authorized or instigated, as a crime against the people of all the States. To resist aggression less odious, our revolutionary fathers, of every colony on the continent, made common cause, and we, men of New York, sympathizing with our brethren of other States subjected to such outrages, pledge "our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honors," to stand by them to the last.

Resolved, That the conduct of our foreign affairs by this administration has been a series of blunders; at times blustering and again timid; now pot-valiant, and then cowardly—it has at last placed us in a position where even England dares to bully us. While we deprecate and shall continue to oppose the prosecution of the civil war pending, we require and demand that the Administration shall submit to no more insults from Great Britain. To resist that insolent power we pledge every man and every dollar required in a vigorous and successful effort to maintain the honor, the flag, and the interest of the country.

Resolved, That the paper lately issued at Albany, purporting to be the address of the Democratic members of the Legislature, has no binding effect upon the Democracy of this city or vicinity, because our members, whose name were without authority attached to it, did not sign and do not concur in it, and because said paper advocates a continuance of the war under the policy of the Administration with all its objects, outrages, and unconstitutional purposes. We call upon the members of this city to publicly disavow it, or we shall disavow them.

Resolved, That in view of this attempt at Albany to place the Democratic party of the State in a false position as favoring continuance of the war, we are glad to learn that the masses composing the Democratic party will meet in State Convention at an early day, to the end that they may express their own opinions upon this great question, independent of the selfish cliques which has so long ruled and ruined the party organization of the Empire State.

These resolutions were followed by a number of able speeches, denouncing the Administration in the most unmeasured terms. It is enough to give a sketch of the most prominent of them:

Ex-Recorder Smith spoke in favor of the resolutions. He said there is not a despotism on the face of the earth where a man at least has not the right to express his views in the cause of humanity. But in this country a man who has lately occupied a high position as a member of Congress, a man of ability, education, and tried patriotism, for no cause in the world, except that, in a political meeting, he said to those that were around him, that we are engaged in a war which cannot result beneficially to us—for this, his house is forcibly entered by soldiers, and he is carried away and imprisoned. He is brought before a military tribunal.

Is not treason defined by the statute? Is there any reason that the law should be trampled upon and entirely disregarded, as if they wished to show the people the power they have, and that they care not for the Constitution and laws? They commit an act of outrage and violence unparalleled in the history of this or any other civilized land since the bloody days of the French revolution. [Applause.] Neither this Government nor the other can stifle the voice of the millions of the people except they drown it in blood. [Applause.] Have they forgotten how Burke and Chatham in the British Parliament denounced the American revolution? These men were not seized and brought before a military tribunal for expressing that opinion. It is true there was a peace party. [Applause] If ever there was a time when we should call for a cessation of those sad experiments we have been making it is now. Some of these men who are opposed to this, if they could but hear the wails and weaping that go up all over this land; if they could understand, as they will understand by-and-by, that no benefit whatever is to result from this war; if they can understand that we may go on spending millions of treasure, entailing upon our children a debt which will be fearful; and if they could understand that it must result in some arrangement or other at last, they would agree with us and say: *"For God's sake let us sheath the sword and make a peace upon some terms or other, and stop this horrid war, which is a curse both to the North and South.* [Applause]

Hon. James Brooks said he thought a crisis had arisen in public affairs in which it is necessary for every man, as often as possible, to show himself in public in order to rebuke the existing Administration. When a distinguished public man whom he knew well, whom many of them knew well, whom we all loved and revered, distinguished for his eloquence, his learning, his high attainments; distinguished above all for his moral heroism—physical heroes are abundant, but moral heroes are few and far between—when such a man had been arrested, he had felt it his duty to appear here and join in a general expression of public opinion. Mr. Brooks related the circumstances of Mr. Vallandigham's arrest. The doors of his house had been battered down at three o'clock in the morning by a company of Abolition soldiers, armed with muskets, and he was arrested, kidknapped from his wife and house, abducted, carried off to Cincinnati, and incarcerated there lawlessly, tyrannically, wickedly, by the minions in power. No outrage on earth can be so great as that. No king in Europe, not Napoleon on his throne, or the Czar of Russia even, dare violate the sacredness of a private citizen's home, and the principle is so high and holy in English law that for five hundred years the King of England has not dared to violate it. A man's house is his castle. The doors of this man's house have been broken into by a lawless soldiery in the hour approaching morning, when man slumbers most heavily, usually alarming his wife and family. If such a thing were done in England, not only the peasant and laborer, but the aristocrat himself would rise in indignation to overturn an Administration that dared be guilty of such an outrage. [Applause]—Here, and here alone, has the thing been attempted, in order to delight and overawe the Democracy of Ohio. Twenty-five years ago, when Napoleon was laying out the beautiful garden of the Tuileries in Paris for the gratification of the French nation, a miserable hut, a dirty shanty, was held some two hundred yards from the palace of the first and august Napoleon, who had six hundred thousand bayonets under his control, by an humble Frenchman, who, on being asked to sell, refused, and the august Napoleon never dared to break open the door of that little hut, so sacred was this right even in France. [Applause] If we do not resist this now it will soon be too late to resist it. If we do not protest against it from the beginning, and on every occasion, the manacles of despotism will be soon so enchained upon us that no human power can bear them. We should carefully, within the bounds of law, create the system of agitation, continual agitation, which will arouse the people and awaken them to resistance. We should present petitions, as well as remonstrances, to the President—for the right of petition is yet left to us poor subjects of Abraham Lincoln; we should petition our Governor, if necessary, to use his influence for the liberation of our illustrious fellow-citizen, Mr. Vallandigham. [Cheers]

Mr. Brooks said he had received a letter this afternoon from a Brigadier-General in Indiana, General Haskell, in which he speaks of an article commenting on a most extraordinary war order he had issued, and says it is lucky for him (the speaker) that his paper was not published in Indiana, for he would have suppressed it very quickly. The audacity and insolence of these miserable creatures in straps and lace the speaker would resist and denounce at every occasion and at all hazards.—Republican liberty is never to be secured but by continual watchfulness. Tyranny and despotism we should resist to the utmost of our ability in and under the law. As long as they leave us the ballot-box our victory is sure, and if they do not leave us the ballot box, said Mr. Brooks, by the eternal God I will be willing to lead any army, if you will trust to my leadership, to resist all such tyranny in active opposition.

DEMONSTRATIONS IN INDIANA.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 20, 1863.—The Democratic mass meeting to-day was largely attended. D. W. Voorhees presided. Messrs. Merrick and Eden, of Illinois, and McDonald, of Indiana, were the principal speakers.

A good deal of excitement prevailed during the day, and forty or fifty arrests were made for carrying concealed weapons, shouting for Jeff. Davis, &c. A military guard was placed in different parts of the city, and patrolling the streets in the vicinity of the square where the Convention was held to prevent disturbances.

The speeches consisted principally in opposition to the war measures of the Administration. It is said that the Convention assembled for the purpose of discussing grievances and petition to redress, protesting in the name of the Democracy against the flagrant and wicked abuse of power which placed Vallandigham in prison.

At three P. M. resolutions were introduced and hurriedly passed, amid great confusion, after which the Convention immediately adjourned *sine die*.

On the several trains leaving the city to-night, the excursionists commenced firing on the Soldiers' Home and the houses on the line of the railroad. The military authorities ordered the trains stopped and searched the passengers. About five hundred revolvers were taken, and numerous arrests made.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., May 20, 1863.—A large Union meeting is in progress to-night.

SALE OF NEGROES IN THE NORTH.—The annexed paragraph, which is extracted from an Illinois paper, shows what sort of sympathy is extended to free negroes in Mr. Lincoln's own State. If the Yankees were to free all the negroes in the South, it is probable they would signalize their philanthropy by preventing their residence in the "free" North:

The Whiteside (Illinois) *Sentinel* publishes an official notice, under date of February 2, 1863, signed by C. M. Child, J. P., to the effect that, whereas certain negroes named were, on the 5th and 6th ult., tried on "a charge of high misdemeanor, having come into this State and county, and remaining therein for ten days or more, with the evident intention of residing in this State, and were found guilty by a jury, and were each severally fined in the sum of $50," and whereas the fines and costs of suit not having been paid, the said negroes will be sold at auction, on the 19th day of February, 1863, at the Court-House of Carthage, for the payment of said fines and costs.

FROM FLORIDA.—The local of the Columbus *Times* has recently returned from Florida, and among the items in his report is the following:

Of Gen. Finegan, who commands in the eastern division of the State, we hear but one general wail of complaint, and the charge of total inefficiency for the post assigned him is general throughout East Florida. Gen. Finegan has received the credit of driving the negroes out of Jacksonville, and we believe it; but the General, instead of retaking the city, killing every negro found in arms and restoring the city from the polluted grasp of the Yankees, sullenly refused to attack himself or permit an independent company of gentlemen, who asked permission to do so on their own responsibility.

We have these and many other facts from gentlemen of the highest standing in Florida.

A HEAVY REWARD.—A few days since we published a paragraph that a young man named Edie had absconded from a leading auction house in Charleston, with a large amount of his employer's money. The thief was in the employ of Jas. H. Taylor, and the amount taken by him was $18,600. Mr. T. offers a reward of $1,000 for his arrest. The *Courier* says:

He wrote a very cool letter to Mr Taylor, thanking him for his kindness and his confidence, begging him to keep the matter private for the sake of a young man's former reputation, and promising him to return the money, with interest, as soon as it was in his power to do so. Edie says an order for his arrest and return to his company was the reason of his sudden departure.

SEVERE ON BANKS.—The Boston *Commonwealth*, Senator Sumner's organ, makes the following ungracious allusion to General Banks:

The rebels have set a high price on Butler's head; if they will only take Banks's head for nothing we should thank them. It is not much, to be sure; such as it is, they are welcome to it.

FEDERAL OFFICERS SPECULATING IN STOCKS.—A correspondent of the *Independent*, (Beecher's paper,) insinuates that some high officials of the Federal Government have been speculating in stocks. A short time since the Philadelphia *Inquirer* came to Washington with the announcement "The Stars and Stripes floating over Richmond!" Washington correspondents were prohibited by the censor of telegraph from contradicting the story in messages to their friends in Philadelphia and New York! Therefore, the writer very reasonably concludes that "it is difficult to dismiss the suspicion that some pretty high parties have been endeavoring to operate in the gold market."

SALE OF NEGROES.—Mr. John S. Riggs, auctioneer, sold at auction, in Charleston, on Friday morning, twenty-six negroes, at an average of $1,075, amounting in all to $27,950. Two men, 21 and 22 years old respectively, sold for $1,800; two girls, 15 and 16 years old, sold for $2,810; a boy, 15, $1,700; a man and wife, $5,000; a woman and daughter, $1,910; a boy, 12 years, $1,440, two families of five field hands, each $4,020; a woman, 22 years old and child, $1,850; a man, 40 years old and child, $1,720; one man, 55 years old, $310; one woman, 38 years old, $940; one old man and wife, about 60 years old, $450.

TRADE ON THE MEXICAN BORDER.—It is stated that nearly all the wagons in Texas are taken up with the trade on the Mexican border. Quantities of flour and bacon in the interior of Texas cannot be carried forward to the army for want of transportation, which is now employed in this pernicious traffic. This trade is permitted by the Yankees for the purpose of procuring our cotton, and returns from it of nothing but the most perishable goods, which are sold at fabulous prices.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Pardons.—Governor Letcher on Monday pardoned and released from the penitentiary four men, viz: Albert Mason, sent from this city by the Hustings Court for obtaining money under false pretences; John Turner, sent by the Circuit Court of Pulaski county for larceny; Charles E. Allison, sent from Buckingham county for horse stealing; and Charles Walker, alias A. J. Hill, sent from Appomattox county for grand larceny. These pardons were granted because the prisoners named had given information of a most extensive projected emeute amongst their fellow convicts, embracing in its ramifications the murder of the superintendent, guard, and all others who might seek to debar their access to the outer world. Information afterwards obtained verified the perfect accuracy of the information communicated by those pardoned, and justified their release from confinement.

Episcopal Diocesan Council—Third Day.—The first business of interest to-day was the reading of the report of the Committee on Parochial Reports by the Rev. Mr. Friend, which presented a condensed statistical statement of the operations of the various parishes in the Diocese during the year.

The report of the Committee on the State of the Church was read by Dr. Minnegerode.—As before stated, it exhibits the affairs of the Church in the Diocese in an encouraging light, shows the pecuniary resources to be most gratifying, the ordinations as numerous as could be expected, the confirmations increasing, and makes valuable suggestions as to Sunday Schools and the education of youth.

Rev. Mr. Gibson, from the committee to whom was referred that portion of the Bishop's address referring to army services, made the following report:

"The committee to whom was referred that portion of the Bishop's address which relates to the supply of the army with religious services, beg leave most cordially to respond to the appeal of our Bishop, and to recommend immediate and efficient action on the part of our whole Diocese. Regarding the work to be done one of such evident and immense importance not only to the immediate salvation of the souls of our brave defenders, but to the future interests of our whole Confederacy, of the cause of our Redeemer, and of our own beloved Church in particular, and in view of the now pressing call for laborers, we feel well assured that neither our clergy nor their parishes will shrink from any amount of labor or of self-denial which may be found necessary to its accomplishment. If the parishes who now enjoy the regular ministrations of their clergy will only agree to dispense with such privileges for some short stated period, the clergy, we are persuaded, will gladly engage at such times to supply those ministrations to the army. Not deeming it sufficient in such an important matter to offer merely a general recommendation on the subject, we propose the plan of action embodied in the following resolution:

"Resolved, That until our army can be fully supplied with Chaplains, the members of this Council, as representatives of the several parishes and congregations of the Diocese, do request the Bishop to call upon those clergymen now occupying parochial cures, to render religious services to the army, in such way and for such length of time as he may designate, and we, the clerical members of the Council, do hereby cheerfully offer ourselves for the work."

Rev. Dr. Woodbridge read the report of the Committee on the Episcopal Fund.

Mr. Pegram read the report of the Finance Committee, showing the amount in the hands of the Treasurer upon the reassembling of the Council to be $3,994 69, which, with the amount handed in during the present session, made a fund of $7,958 69, for expenses during the current year. Three thousand dollars of this amount is invested in eight per cent. Confederate bonds.

Mr. Macfarland offered the following:

Resolved, That the application of the Chisholm fund to the education and maintenance of Wm. Chisholm may be extended the interest of the principal should his aunt, Mrs. Page, think it proper, and the treasurer of the fund concur in her opinion. Carried.

Rev. Mr. Murdaugh offered the following:

Resolved, That the Clergy and Laity present in this Council mark with regret the absence of loved brethren with whom it has long been their privilege to gather in annual meeting, and in the name of the Church in the Diocese of Virginia, send messages of love and greeting in Christ to ministers and brethren from whom God's providence is now separating them, with prayers for a full restoration of our full communion.

Unanimously carried.

On motion

Resolved, That when this Council adjourns it adjourn to meet at such place as the Bishop may designate.

The members then united in singing the *Gloria in Excelsis*, after which prayer was offered, and the benediction pronounced by the Bishop and the Council was declared adjourned *sine die*.

Yankee Misrepresentation.—The New York *Tribune*, of May 19th, contains the following paragraph:

"That infernal brute, Capt. Turner, a few days since, had charge of some of our prisoners from Richmond to City Point, and caused a man of the 119th Pennsylvania to be bayoneted because he could proceed no further. The villain would not give the poor fellow even a drink of water. A soldier of an Ohio regiment, taken at Rome, Ga., was shot on Wednesday while reaching for a cracker at Belle Isle Prison. Our prisoners were compelled to walk from their places of capture at Fredericksburg to Richmond, thence to City Point. Some gave out on the march. A member of the 20th New York regiment died on the route."

The delicate allusions in the foregoing are made to Capt. Thos. P. Turner, Commandant of the Libby Prison in this city. A contradiction would hardly seem to be necessary, yet we will state that Capt. Turner did not accompany the Yankees to City Point—one party being in charge of Lieut. Bossieux, the other of Lt. La Touche. Nobody was bayoneted for inability to proceed, nor was water denied any of the vandals. One man, who was advised by Capt. Turner to stay because too weak to undertake the journey, insisted upon going, and died, for which he had nobody to blame but himself. While the Yankees were on Belle Isle a spent ball, fired by a party of amateur sportsmen under the Petersburg bridge, reached Belle Isle and inflicted a slight flesh wound in the calf of one Ohio soldier, who was standing not far from Capt. Turner at the time. He left Belle Isle with his comrades. The idea of riding seven or eight thousand Yankees on the cars from Fredericksburg to City Point would have entered the head of nobody else but the editor of the New York *Tribune*.

Heavy Tax.—The Legislature, at its last session, passed a law imposing a tax of ten cents a head on each person admitted to any place of amusement for pay. Under this law Mrs. E. Magill, owner of the Marshall Theatre, was called upon, a few days since, to pay $6,262 49, as tax on thirteen weeks' performances at the Theatre. The law being *expost facto* in its operation, and not going into operation until the 1st of May, the money was paid under protest.

Yankee Prisoners.—Wm. Spencer, Assistant Surgeon 73d Indiana regiment, was brought to Richmond yesterday and lodged in the Libby prison. He was captured in Morgan county, Ala., on the 30th of April. From Newbern, N. C., was received at the same place John Scott, Captain of schooner Seabird, his mate, four seamen, and two Massachusetts Yankee soldiers, named Charles Wood and Geo. Unit, lately captured near Newbern.

Examination Continued.—Several hours were spent yesterday by the C. S. Commissioner in examining a charge of forgery brought against Thomas V. Carr, late a clerk in the C. S. Comptroller's office. Some ten charges of forgery have already been preferred against Carr. The examination was continued until to-day, when it will probably be concluded.

Sanitary.—We learn from the undertakers—very good judges in such matters—that the health of the city is remarkably good at the present time. The mortality amongst the wounded soldiers sent to the hospitals from Chancellorsville has been very slight. The city police, by taking up and bringing to the attention of his Honor the Mayor all the nuisances they find to exist, are doing their part towards the preservation of the sanitary health.

Hustings Court, May 26th.—Judge Wm. H. Lyons presiding.—Elias Vanderlip, former proprietor of an oyster saloon on Broad st., was put on trial for having, in conjunction with another party, stolen a large fishing seine, the property of John Hitchcock. It was proven that he had claimed ownership over the seine, offering it for sale to a gentleman who had expressed a desire to have an article of the kind. The jury found him guilty and assessed his term in the penitentiary at four years. About a month since the wife of the prisoner was put in jail for one year on a conviction for perjury.

On Monday, in the case of James H Gilman and Archer T Walton, tried for stealing four horses from J. E Ledbetter, on the 8th of March last, the jury failed to agree, and were discharged at 9 o'clock at night.

Yesterday Mary Smith, a young white girl, was put on trial for stealing $125 from Joseph Kepler. It appeared by the testimony that Kepler had gone into the girl's room with the money in his pocket. On coming out he found that he did not have it. On searching it was found behind a trunk in the prisoner's room. The jury was unable to agree.

Patrick Kurby was arraigned and put on trial, charged with stealing a lot of cloth and ready made clothing from Jno. C. Shafer, in conjunction with one Wm Sullivan, already convicted. The trial was going on late yesterday evening.

Mayor's Court, Tuesday, May 26th.—Peter James, free negro, from Petersburg, drunk and disorderly in the street was ordered 15 lashes and sent to the chain gang.

John C Connors, charged with stealing one coat of the value of $50, and $5 90 in money, from John P. Cantner, was examined and sent before the Hustings Court.

John Smith, white, charged with stealing whiskey and cigars of the value of $200 from Wm H. Travis, was examined and acquitted of the charge of felony, but committed to jail for want of security to keep the peace and be of good behavior.

Irvington slave of Mrs. M. Clopton, was ordered five lashes for smoking a cigar in the street.

Chas. A. Lathrop, charged with getting drunk and lying down in the Theatre, was fined one dollar.

Ishmael Roberts, a free negro, underwent an examination for felony. The charge against Roberts was that he assaulted and beat a darkey, servant of a soldier, and robbed him of a gold watch. The charge was not sustained by the proof. Robert was committed to jail in default of $500 to be of good behavior, and sent to the chain gang for an indefinite period.

Smith, a slave darkey, the name of whose owner did not transpire, was punished for having in his possession a lot of sugar, for which he could not satisfactorily account.

Two men, brought up from Castle Thunder for engaging in the substitute swindling business, were committed for further examination.

The City Taxes.—We understand that the amount of taxes to be collected by the Sheriff of Richmond this year will probably exceed the sum of $300,000, and for the ensuing year will no doubt be a round million. At this rate the bond of the Sheriff of Richmond will have to be made in the penalty of two million of dollars.

The Election.—The polls will be opened tomorrow as sunrise in the different wards: In Jefferson, at the Old Market; in Madison, at the City Hall, and in Monroe, at Lacey's Carpenter Shop, on Broad street. The citizen cannot probably do better, either for himself or the candidates, than to "vote early."

Arrests.—The city police yesterday arrested Willie Grace and Mike Bane, for fighting in an alley; Daniel Butler, for unlawfully assaulting Ben, slave of Charles Cobler, and Lucius Crane, for stealing a cow, valued at $75, from Mr. Goddin.

Stealing a Passport.—A man named John McAlister was lodged in Castle Thunder yesterday on the charge of stealing a passport and attempting to leave the city on it.

RICHMOND, May 26, 1863.

Sir: I have received the questions submitted upon the Election Laws.

Question 1st—Can officers of the navy, who are citizens of Virginia, of lawful age, vote in the approaching election, and where are they to vote?

Answer.—They are legal voters in the county or city of their residence, unless by reason of the presence of the enemy in the same they cannot there vote. In such case they vote under the 3d section of the act of Assembly, passed March 26, 1863, and under ordinance No. 99, section 4—that is, at the court-house of the county or city where they happen to be.

Question 2d.—Can sailors and mariners, who are citizens and of lawful age, vote, and where?

Answer.—Such persons are prohibited from voting by the terms of the Constitution. They are seamen and mariners in the regular service of the Confederate States.

Question 3d.—Can officers and privates of the army, who have been paroled or exchanged, but who are not with their regiments, battalions, or companies, vote, and where?

Answer.—I do not think they can vote under the provisions of the act above named for voting in camps. They must be qualified voters in a regiment, or in a company or battalion unattached, or in a company or battalion on detached service, in order to vote under the 24 section of the above-mentioned act. The men being on detached service, unless in a company or battalion on such service, will not bring them within the law.

But such officers and privates may vote, under the provisions of the act and the ordinance for the voting of absentees from counties or corporations, because of the presence of the enemy.

The difficulty, where such is the case, under this question, is, that there seems to be no provisions for holding the polls in such cases. There is no reason why suffrage should be denied to such officers and men, but no provision is made for receiving their votes.

Question 4.—Can officers or privates of the army on furlough, who are not in their counties, vote; and who is to record their votes?

Answer.—I answer this as I answered the third question. They can only vote as absentees under the 3rd section of the law, and the 4th section of the ordinance.

Question 5.—Have men, who are detailed for particular duties, and are absent from their residences, the right to vote, and where?

Answer.—They may vote if they are absentees from their residence by reason of the presence of the enemy.

I think they may vote, too, if they are in a company, and under the command of some officer. If they are at a post, and there is a commander of the post, I should incline to think they might vote under his supervision, and within the limits of his post. But where detailed to other duty, but not under command of some officer as a part of a corps for duty, I think there is no provision for their voting.

Question 6.—Can the commandants of posts, at which are wounded soldiers in hospitals, or where there are Government employees, (who are in the military service) hold polls at his post for such persons to vote?

Answer.—I think those on detached service at a post may vote there upon the detail of superintendent, &c., by commandant of the post. I doubt very much whether this will include invalids in hospitals. They can hardly be said to be on detached service, nor have they any commandant. If there be a commandant of the hospital, as a post, I think the vote might be taken.

It is very difficult to construe these provisions so as to me