Richmond Dispatch.

BY J. A. COWARDIN & CO.

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DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XXVI. RICHMOND, VA., TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 26, 1864 NO 22

Richmond Dispatch.

JOB PRINTING NEATLY EXECUTED.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.

Advertisements will be inserted at the rate of ONE DOLLAR PER SQUARE (TEN LINES) for the first insertion—EIGHTY CENTS PER SQUARE, for each subsequent insertion.
Larger advertisements in proportion.
Advertisements published till forbid, will be charged for at the rate of eight lines for every insertion.

RUNAWAYS

200 DOLLARS Reward.—Runaway from the subscriber, on the 19th inst, my boy Austin. The said boy is about 16 years old, about five feet high, and of a light brown complexion. He took with him my dark bay horse, small in size, but compact and in good order. Austin has a high forehead but narrow, and his hair extends very low on either side. The above reward will be paid for his delivery to Messrs Lee & Bowman, in Richmond, or secured in any jail, and the recovery of the horse.
D SCOTT, Bestland P O,
Essex co, Va.
ja 26—1t

50 DOLLARS Reward.—I will give $50 for any information that will lead to the recovery of a small black Mare, quite lame in the right hind leg, shoulder very sore, has a white spot in her forehead, and unshod, except the lame foot. She strayed or was stolen from my house, near the City Spring, on 5th street. She was heard from near Old Church, Hanover county. All expenses will be paid for her return, with the reward. L McKENNA, 8th st
ja 26—3t*

100 DOLLARS REWARD for the delivery to me of Sims, 26 years old, slender, with high forehead, dark mulatto, who left yesterday, supposed with troops for Petersburg.
S C ROBINSON.
ja 21—6t*

25 REWARD.—Will be paid for the detection of the scoundrel who entered my house about 1 o'clock yesterday, in my absence, and slapped my servant boy.
W T RICHESON,
189 Main street.
ja 26—1t*

1,000 DOLLARS Reward.—Left my house on Saturday evening Jan'y 23d, shortly after six o'clock, my two servants, Matilda and Lavinia.
Matilda is a very stout woman, about 5 feet high, black complexion, smooth, pleasant features, has scars on her arms, neck, and head, and is about 38 years old.
Lavinia is a small, medium height woman, black complexion, sharp features, has scars on her arms from scres, and is 21 years old.
Both are supposed to be trying to make their way to the peninsula in company with other negroes, as they are known to have left with Mr. Solomon Davis's servant girl. The above reward will be paid to any one for the apprehension of both, or $500 a piece for their delivery to me at my house, or where I can get possession of them.
WM THALHIMER,
No 211 Broad st, bet 3d and 4th.
ja 25—2t*

FIVE Hundred Dollars Reward.—Ran away, my boy Barrett. He is 28 or 24 years of age, 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high; has the thumb cut off the left hand; was seen at Ashland some three weeks ago. A reward of five hundred dollars will be given if delivered to me at Roaoke's Station, Richmond and Danville Railroad, or confined in jail so that I can get him.
JNO M WHITE,
Talcott P O, Charlotte co, Va.
ja 25—10t*

200 DOLLARS Reward.—Ran away, on Sunday night, the 17th inst, my negro man James; he is about 22 years old, quite likely, with smooth skin, black complexion, full suit of hair, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, weighs about 150 pounds, and with his index finger on his right hand stiff. In attempting to make his escape he will do bitters pass through Richmond, as his mother lives there with Mr Wm R Pugh, on Grace street, between 7th and 8th. The above reward will be paid on his apprehension and confinement in jail so that I get him.
WM E GREEN,
Mossingford, Charlotte co, Va. ja 21—12*

TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS REWARD for the delivery to me, in the City of Richmond, J J Bob, a boy about 23 yea s old, bright mulatto, who left Friday morning, the 22d. He is supposed to be lurking about Richmond, or he may be in Hanover, where he was hired last year.
WM BRACKETT
ja 19—eod3t*

500 DOLLARS Reward—Will be paid for the delivery to me or securing so that I can get them, two negro men belonging to Mrs Elizabeth Hiles. Adam, 6 feet high, very black, with thick lips, left on the evening of the 1st of January. Peter, 5 feet 8 inches high, brown skin, thick lips, with some impediment in his speech, left Monday, the 14th of January. It is supposed that both are making for the lines of the enemy. $250 for the recovery of either one will be given.
CHARL S BRUCE,
Hiles' of 17th st.
ja 17—10t*

THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.—Will be paid for the delivery to me, or securing so that I get them, three mulatto slaves, Maria Martha and Emily, belonging to the estate of Wm Sanford, dec'd, of $100 for either. They left my residence in this city, last evening. Maria is about 36, and is the mother of Martha, 18, and Emily 16 years of age.
John Hicks, a free mulatto and barber of this city is the husband of Maria, and is said to have left the city a week or ten days ago. It is supposed that they are all making for the lines of the enemy.
JOHN D MUNFORD.
ja 19—3t*

PROCLAMATIONS.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.—A PROCLAMATION.—Information having been received by the Executive that JOSIAH and TOBY OLIVER, who were confined in the jail of Charlotte county under a charge of felony, escaped therefrom on the morning of the 3d January, and are now going at large: Therefore, I do hereby offer a reward of two hundred dollars to any person or persons who shall arrest the said Josiah and Toby Oliver, and deliver them into the jail of Charlotte county, or one hundred dollars for such arrest and delivery of either of them; and I do moreover require all officers of this Commonwealth, civil and military, and request the people generally, to use their best exertions to procure the arrest of the said Josiah and Toby Oliver, that they may be brought to justice.

Given under my hand as Governor, and under the Lesser Seal of the Commonwealth, at Richmond, this 15th day of January, in the year 1864.
WM SMITH.
Teste:
GEORGE W MUNFORD,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Josiah Oliver is 24 or 25 years old, about 5 feet 6 or 8 inches high, weighs 135 or 140 pounds, and has dark hair and whiskers.
Toby Oliver is 23 or 24 years of age, 5 feet 3 or 4 inches high, weighs about 125 or 130 pounds, and has dark hair, without beard. ja 19—sw3t

BY THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.—A PROCLAMATION.—Information having been received by the Executive that E DODSON MOOREFIELD, who was confined in the jail of Charlotte county under a charge of felony, escaped therefrom on the night of the 24th December, 1863, and is now going at large: Therefore, I do hereby offer a reward of one hundred dollars to any person or persons who shall arrest the said Moorefield and deliver him into the jail of Charlotte county. And I do moreover require all officers of this Commonwealth, civil and military, and request the people generally, to use their best exertions to procure the arrest of the said Moorefield, that he may be brought to justice.

Given under my hand as Governor of Virginia, and under the Lesser Seal of the Commonwealth, at Richmond, this 15th day of January, in the year 1864.
WM SMITH.
Teste:
GEO W MUNFORD,
Secretary of Commonwealth.

E Dodson Moorefield represented himself to be about 18 or 19 years of age, is about 5 feet 2 or 3 inches high, has light hair and fair complexion, and weighs about 118 or 120 pounds.
ja 19—sw3t

BY the Governor of Virginia—A Proclamation—Information having been received by the Executive that Pleasant, a slave, the property of Thomas Carter, Sr, who was confined in the jail of Appomattox county, under sentence of death for the murder of Wm V Motley, has made his escape from the said jail and is now going at large: Therefore, I do hereby offer a reward of two hundred dollars to any person or persons who shall arrest the said slave Pleasant and deliver him into the jail of said county of Appomattox; and I do moreover require all officers of this Commonwealth, civil and military, and request the people generally, to use their best exertions to procure the arrest of the said Pleasant, that he may be brought to justice.

Given under my hand as Governor, and under the Lesser Seal of the Commonwealth, at Richmond, this 15th day of January, in the year 1864.
WM SMITH.
By the Governor:
GEO W MUNFORD,
Sec'y of the Commonwealth.

Pleasant is a dark mulatto, about 30 years of age, 6 feet 10 inches high, and heavy built.
ja 19—sw3t

MILITARY NOTICES.

RECRUITS Wanted—For Major Harry Gilmer's battalion of independent cavalry. Horses, equipments, &c, furnished, and $50 bounty. Apply at once at our office, corner Main and 6th streets, opposite Spotswood Hotel.
J W UPSHUR,
Recruiting Officer
ja 26—2t

CONSCRIPTS.—Persons liable to conscription, unwilling to go into the army, can hear of something to their advantage by addressing "CIVILIAN," at this office. ja 26—1t*

SECOND Company, Richmond Howitzers—Persons desiring to join this company, Capt David Watson, will apply to the undersigned, who will grant furloughs until the 10th February next.—Volunteers received until the maximum is reached. The company is now attached to the 1st Virginia artillery, reserve of Ewell's corps, in winter quarters at Frederick Hall Depot, Louisa co, Va.
Sergt REUBEN B PLEASANTS,
16 Pearl st, up stairs.
ja 23—10t*

THE Auction Sales at Wilmington, on the 26th and 27th inst, will be attended by the undersigned. Orders by telegraph will be faithfully executed at a moderate commission.
GEO Y WORTHINGTON.
REFER TO
Prescott & Baily, R Hough & Co,
Tardy & Williams, Robinson, Adams & Co,
C A Baldwin & Co, T J Starke.
ja 25—3t*

Richmond Dispatch.

TUESDAY MORNING.....JANUARY 26, 1864

CONFISCATION OF PROPERTY IN NORFOLK.

The humane Butler, who is so solicitous about the health of the Yankee prisoners in Richmond, has commenced confiscating the property of citizens in Norfolk. The real estate, furniture, goods, chattels, and personal property of the following persons is advertised for sale for the benefit of the U. S. Government: Wm. W. Davis, C. W. Murdaugh, member of the Legislature; Jos. M. Miles, clothing merchant; Rev. Thos. Hume, Baptist minister; Ed. Kearns, a captain in the Confederate service; Thos. W. Cofer, John T. Rustic, naval constructor at Selma, Ala.; W. C. Wingfield, C. W. Young, Robert V. Boykin, John De Bree, Chas. T. Myers, W. M. Mahone, Mathias Ward, and Terry Sinclair.

CONFEDERATE STATES CONGRESS.

The *Senate* was called to order, and opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Baker, of the Presbyterian Church.

The bill to authorize the creditors of the Confederate States to receive their dues in 8 per cent. bonds, and the bill to authorize the issue of certain bonds, and make the coupons attached a legal tender for the payment of debts, were reported back adversely from the Finance Committee.

Mr. Sparrow, from the Military Committee, reported, with the recommendation that it pass, the House bill to establish an asylum for wounded and disabled soldiers.

Mr. Sparrow, from the same committee, reported back favorably the bill to confer additional powers on military courts and courts-martial, and the bill to amend the act to organize military courts.

Mr. Sparrow, from the Military Committee, reported a bill to amend the 65th article of war, and a bill to provide and organize a general staff for the armies in the field to serve during the war.

Mr. Phelan introduced a bill to amend the act to punish drunkenness in the army. Referred to the Military Committee.

The Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury in response to a resolution of the Senate requesting to be informed of the amount of the funded debt of the Confederate States on the 1st of January, 1864; the amount of non-interest bearing notes outstanding on the 1st Jan., 1864, &c.

According to the Secretary's statements it appears that the funded debt of the Confederate States, on the 1st Jan., 1864, was—

In eight per cent. bonds under act of Feb. 28, 1861,	$15,000,000 00
In eight per cent. bonds under act of May 16, 1861,	8,774,900 00
In eight per cent bonds under act of Aug. 19, 1861,	100,000,000 00
In eight per cent. bonds under act of April 12, 1862,	3,612 300 00
In eight per cent. bonds under act of Feb. 20, 1863,	95,785,000 00
In seven per cent. bonds under act of Feb 20, 1863,	63,615,750 00
In six per cent. bonds under act of March 23d, 1863,	2,837,700 00
In cotton interest coupon bonds,	8,252 00
The amount of call certificates outstanding 1st Jan., 1864, was	89,206,770 00
The amount of non-interest bearing Treasury notes,	790,898,095 00
The amount of interest bearing Treasury notes,	102,465,450 00
The amount of Treasury notes under the denomination of five dollars,	10,424,077 50

The communication and accompanying documents were ordered to be printed.

The Senate then went into secret session, and the doors being reopened—

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill declaring persons owing military service to the Confederate States, and who seek to avoid such service by removing beyond the control and jurisdiction of said States, alien enemies, and subjecting their property to confiscation. After a long discussion, the bill was recommitted to the Judiciary Committee.

The bill to provide for a new issue of Treasury notes, and for funding the Treasury notes now outstanding, was, on motion of Mr. Semmes, indefinitely postponed.

On motion, the Senate again resolved itself into secret session.

The *House* met at 11 o'clock, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Burrows.

The Senate bill to regulate the collection of the tax in kind on tobacco, and to amend the act to lay taxes for the public defence and to carry on the Government, approved April 24, 1863, was taken up under a suspension of the rules, and without amendment considered and passed.

A resolution was offered by Mr. Gartrell, of Georgia, to instruct the Doorkeeper to furnish the President and Heads of Departments with the documents ordered to be printed by the House. Agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, of Ala., from the Post-Office Committee, reported a bill for the appointment of an agent for the Post-Office Department, and such clerks as may be necessary to carry on the postal service in the States west of the Mississippi. The rules were suspended, and the bill taken up and passed.

Mr. Barksdale, of Miss, offered a resolution that the President be requested to inform the House what steps have been taken to carry out the provisions of the act of 13th of October, chapter 62, in relation to the arrest and disposition of slaves who have been recaptured from the enemy; what number of depots for their safekeeping have been established, and whether public notice has been given in the newspapers of their arrest, as provided in said act. Agreed to.

Mr Foote, of Tenn., offered a resolution, which was rejected, that the bill to continue in service all troops now in the military service of the Confederate States, be hereafter considered in open session.

Mr. Lyons, of Virginia, from the Committee to whom was referred the charge of corruption against a member of the House, contained in a paragraph in the Richmond *Examiner*, of the 7th day of January, reported that the committee have carefully examined every witness and source of information indicated to them, or which suggested itself, and was within their control, and have found nothing to sustain the charge.

Mr. Foote, of Tenn., offered a resolution that, in the judgment of this House, it is eminently desirable, in order to secure the comfortable subsistence of our valiant armies, and to allay existing discontents known to exist in certain rural districts, that the present Commissary General should be removed, and a suitable successor appointed in his place.

Mr. Kenan, of Ga., moved to lay the resolution on the table, and on this motion the ayes and noes were had, and resulted—ayes 46, noes 20.

Mr. Chilton, of Ala., offered a resolution that the Committee on Claims inquire whether provision should not be made by law for auditing and paying accounts against the Government for horses impressed and actually received into the service of the Confederate States, but which have been rejected by the pay department on account of some informality in the appointment of impressing officers, or in the certificates of the officers making such impressment, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Judiciary Committee, reported back Senate bill fixing the regular time of the meeting of Congress on the first of May, with a recommendation that the House concur in the bill as passed by the Senate.

Mr. Atkins, of Tenn., moved to amend the bill by striking out the 1st of May and inserting the words "19th of February."

Mr. Hilton, of Fla., moved to postpone the further consideration of the bill until the 15th of February. The motion did not prevail.

On motion, the House went into secret session.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Senate.—One bill was introduced in the Senate yesterday, making debts due to branch banks within the enemy's lines payable to the mother banks within Confederate lines.

Mr. Douglas proposed a preamble and joint resolution declaring the law now existing and declaring militia officers *not* exempt from conscription.

A communication was received from Gov. Smith in regard to the reserve State force, &c.

The militia bill was considered until the hour of adjournment.

House.—A bill was reported yesterday for regulating the charges of the Southern Express Company.

Also, a bill authorizing a connection between the Richmond and Petersburg and the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad Companies.

And a bill to make Church river a lawful fence through Scott county. Adjourned.

LATER FROM THE NORTH.

We are indebted to the signal corps office for the use of a Baltimore paper of Tuesday last, the 19th inst. We give a summary of the news contained:

PROCEEDINGS IN THE YANKEE CONGRESS.

In the Yankee House of Representatives on the 18th, Mr. Dawson, (Democrat,) of Pennsylvania, offered a resolution declaring that the war was not waged for conquest or oppression, and requesting the President to issue a proclamation making known that when any State, now in insurrection, shall submit to the Federal Government, all hostilities against her shall cease, and such State shall be protected against all interference with her local laws and institutions. The resolutions were laid on the table—ayes 79, noes 58.

Mr. Cox of Ohio, offered a resolution proposing to take the exchange of prisoners out of the hands of Gen. Butler, and refer it to a Board of Commissioners. The resolution was summarily laid on the table by a vote of ayes 91, nays 56.

The Senate resolution providing for the appointment of a select committee, consisting of three members of the Senate and five of the House, on the conduct and expenditures of the war, was passed.

Mr. Smith, of Ky., offered resolutions declaring that the rebellion is "desperate, wicked, and bloody;" that "the safety and security of personal and national liberties depend upon its utter and absolute extinction;" and that, therefore, "it is the political, civil, moral, and sacred duty of the people to meet it, fight it, and forever destroy it, thereby establishing perfect and unalterable liberty." The resolutions were adopted—ayes 112, nays 16.

In the Senate, on the 16th, the one million men bill, to release the prisoners at Richmond was discussed. Mr. Howe, who offered the bill, assured the Senate he was in earnest. Mr. Trumbull thought one hundred thousand might be raised, but a million was driving it a little too strong. Mr. Wilson thought a hundred thousand recruits against Lee's veterans would stand no chance at all. The subject was dropped.

In the *Senate*, on the 18th, a bill was submitted and referred, providing for the establishment of a Bureau of Emancipation, under the Secretary of the Treasury. The resolution for the expulsion of Senator Davis, of Ky., was referred to the Judiciary Committee. Joint resolutions of thanks to Hooker, Meade, Howard, Banks, and Burnside, were passed.

AWFUL DISASTER IN CHILI—CATHEDRAL DESTROYED BY FIRE—TWO THOUSAND WOMEN BURNT TO DEATH.

An awful disaster occurred in Santiago, the capital of Chili, on the 8th of December. The Immaculate Conception was being celebrated in the church of the Jesuits. It was about 7 o'clock in the evening and the crescent of light (gas) that formed the pedestal for the Virgin Mary fired the wood upon which it rested, and the flames sprung upwards over the building. There were ten thousand persons in the church. The suddenness of the fire was awful. The dense mass of women frightened out of their senses, numbers fainting, and all entangled by their long swelling dresses, rushed as those who knew that death was at their heels, to the one door, which soon became choked up. Fire was everywhere. Streaming along the wooden ceiling it flung the camphene lamps hung in rows there, among the struggling women.

In a moment the gorgeous church was a sea of flame. Michael Angelo's fearful picture of hell was there but exceeded. Help was all but impossible. A Hercules might have strained his strength in vain to pull one from the seried mass of frenzied wretches who piled one above another as they climbed over to reach the air, wildly fastening the grip of death upon any one escaping, in order that they might be dragged out with them. Women seized in the embrace of the flames were seen to undergo a transformation as though by an optical delusion—first dazzling bright, then horribly lean and shrunk up, then black statues rigidly fixed in a writhing attitude. The fire, imprisoned by the immense thickness of the walls, had devoured everything combustible by 10 o'clock, and then, defying the sickening stench, people came to look for their lost ones. The silence, after the piercing screams of the burning were hushed in death, was horrible. It was the silence of the grave, unbroken but by the bitter wail or fainting cry. *Over two thousand souls* had leaped through that ordeal of fire to the judgment seat of God.

The writer referring to the fire handles the clergy in the most severe manner, and says the population of Santiago are fired with indescribable indignation at the monstrous conduct of the priests, holding them guilty of the death of all these victims, and particularly the mountebank Ugarte, the inventor of the "Virgins' Post-Office" imposture, which required a countless number of lights, pasteboard scenery, &c.

When the fire broke out they blocked up the door of the sacristy, to devote themselves more undisturbedly to saving their "gimcracks." They saved a gilt image, some wooden saints, chalices, and a great deal of sacred matting. After saving their trash they fled away, except one priest, who faced the agonized victims with his absolution.

More than 500 persons of the highest caste perished, the greater part young girls between fifteen and twenty years of age. One mother perished with her five daughters. Two thirds of the victims were servants. Several houses have been noticed by the police as empty, because all their inmates have perished.

The latest information is that 1,700 bodies have been recognized. Three thousand at least were in the building, and it is not yet known how many have escaped.

REPORTED PLOT TO CAPTURE JOHNSON'S ISLAND.

A dispatch from Sandusky, Ohio, dated the 17th, says that a scout had just returned from a thorough reconnoissance towards Point Pelee, Canada, and reports two or three thousand rebels at Point Pelee, preparatory to a dash upon Johnson's Island. The strictest vigilance is maintained on the island, and several batteries are in position. Point Pelee is thirty miles from Johnson's Island. John Brown, a son of "old John Brown," who resides on Put-in-Bay Island, has gone to Columbus to induce the Government to furnish howitzers and small arms for the protection of its inhabitants. The long roll is frequently sounded. It is apprehended that the rebels will attempt to cross on the ice.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

A dispatch to the New York *Tribune*, from the Army of the Potomac, dated January 17th, says that on the evening of the 14th, a squad of the 1st Rhode Island cavalry on picket near Three-Mile Station, were attacked by a body of Rebel cavalry, estimated at 200. The pickets were forced to fall back with the loss of one captured and one wounded. The assailing force then approached the reserve post, and on being hailed by the officer in command, represented themselves as belonging to the 3d Pennsylvania cavalry, on their way to Bealeton Station. Finding that their story was discredited, they poured a volley into our men, and immediately retired into the woods to re load, receiving as they fell back, the fire of our picket reserve. Our men were somewhat sheltered by breastworks, which were repeatedly and desperately charged by the enemy, who was in every instance repulsed. The fight continued half an hour, when the rebel force retreated.

Twelve wounded rebels were found on Friday morning at a house half a mile from the scene of the engagement, and three were found dead on the field. Our loss was but two wounded. The wounded rebels state that the attack was made under the impression that a Government paymaster was present with the Rhode Island cavalry, for the purpose of paying off the men on the 15th inst.

THE RAID IN THE NORTHERN NECK.

The recent raid in the Northern Neck of Virginia was made by the Yankee garrison guarding the prisoners at Point Lookout, Md. The result of the raid, as reported by the *American*, was the capture of 25 prisoners, 60 horses, 20 mules, 65 head of cattle, and 100 head of sheep.—The expedition embarked from Point Lookout on the 12th, under command of Brig. Gen Marston. It consisted of 300 infantry and 130 men of the 2d and 5th United States cavalry. During their raid they visited Warsaw, Richmond county, Lancaster Court House, and Little Waltham. At the first named place they found a large quantity of Government stores, consisting of pork and bacon, which were destroyed. At Kilmarnock, ten miles west from Lancaster Court-House, they destroyed an extensive tannery, and a large stock of leather, oil, hides, machinery, &c.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A letter from the blockading fleet off Wilmington announces the loss of the executive officer, 1 engineer, and 17 men from the Montgomery, and 1 ensign, the captain's clerk, and 7 men from the Aries, while attempting to take possession of the blockade running steamer Dare, which had been run ashore. The particulars of the capture have been published in the Richmond papers.

In the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania the motion to dissolve the injunction heretofore granted to restrain the Provost Marshal from taking drafted men was granted.

Hendricks and Hart, two Yankee newspaper correspondents, have reached New York, having been "paroled" for ninety days by the Confederate authorities.

Capt. W. W. White, Provost Marshal of the Eighteenth Pennsylvania District, at Williamsport, has been dismissed the service and arrested and lodged in the Old Capitol Prison for alleged frauds in the business of his office.

The Confederate steamer Florida is lying in port at Brest, France, making ready to leave. She is lying near the U. S. gunboat Kearsage.

Col. Wm. McNeir, for many years official printer to the Maryland Senate, died in Philadelphia on the 17th inst.

A banquet was given to the veterans of the Irish Brigade in New York on the 16th. Gen. Meagher was the principal speaker.

Col. Fish has retired from the post of Provost Marshal of Baltimore and Major Bayner appointed to the post.

Robert J. Walker writes from England that there is a great revolution of opinion there in favor of the Yankees.

A fire occurred in New York on Saturday week destroying property to the amount of $1,250,000.

Gens. Hancock and Burnside are to recruit their old corps to 50,000 men each.

A court-martial has been called for the trial of Surgeon-General Hammond.

Gold was quoted in New York, on the 19th, at 158 a 159.

Extract from the Richmond Correspondence of the London Herald.

[Dated Richmond, January 5th.]

The public papers of this city announced a few days previously, that the President would be glad to receive visits from his friends between 12 and 3 o'clock on New Year's day. Having gone to the Executive Mansion with the family of my old friend, Hon. Mr. Henry, a distinguished Senator from Tennessee, I found on my arrival, the steps and halls of that building crowded with fair women and brave men. A charming girl from Louisiana, expelled from her father's roof tree by the barbarous soldiery of Gen. Banks, was my special companion on the occasion; and her presence having quickened into a subdued startle the gallantry for which the well-bred gentlemen of the South are so remarkable, threw over the circle around us a decidedly courtly grace. The President stood in an elegant room with Mrs. Davis on his left. His Excellency—for the occasion—was one of state—was dressed in a suit of black; and while appearing in good health, looked rather more careworn than usual. Soldiers and civilians, males and females, his visitors, having exchanged with him wishes of happiness for the ensuing year, passed on their way to the hall-door; or if they happened to know the officers of the staff or some visitors who were so fortunate, made a circuit for presentation to Mrs. Davis. That lady is by no means an ordinary woman. Her style is very much that of the period of George the third—reminding one indeed of the pictures of the wives of the great State officers of the government of George Washington. She is a stately woman, with brunette complexion, and eyes full of brilliance, tenderness, and intelligence. Her manners are very agreeable; but touched with a repose that, even though carried to almost sadness, savors very much of the grand. She and the President appeared to be in good spirits, and were regarded by their troops of visitors with a warmth and heartiness that were maintained in perfect harmony with an air of profound respect.

The Provost Marshal General of Mr. Lincoln's dominions has furnished an official report of the working of the Federal draft, by anticipations of the from which the Confederates will present next spring to meet the bloody crisis of their conflict for all that is most dear to a gallant and generous people.

The Confederates regard the course of France and England with bitter disappointment. A sanguine people, they have met in the neutrality of these countries, on which they counted for countenance, a heavy discouragement. The despondency which rests on them now at the turning point of their fate may be referred to a very great extent to the conviction in the public mind that the great maritime powers, if not hostile to the Confederacy, would under the provision of the second section of the act, or found not liable to military duty on account of alliance, unsuitableness of age, non-residents, &c. * * * About one-half of those held to service have paid commutation; of the remainder about one-third have gone in person, and two-thirds have furnished substitutes, and all except a few in transit and a small proportion of deserters from among the earlier substitutes are in the ranks of their regiments in front of the enemy!

The numbers represented in the per centages of Col. Fry's report will present the facts he states in a light more direct for the objects of this review —300,000 men having been the net result sought in the conscription, the number "drawn" was extended, in order to cover contingencies, to fifty per cent. additional—450,000. The per centages of the report are predicated on that data; and show therefore the following distributions under the several heads:

Deserters, &c, the 20 per cent. who did not "report,"	90,000
Physically disabled—30 per cent. of remainder,	108,000
Aliens, persons of unsuitable age, &c., (30 per cent.	108,000
Exempted by commutation,	72,000
Exempted by substitution,	48,000
Held to service,	24,000

There is some reason to suppose that these per centages of Col Fry's are stated loosely in favor of the "draft." They show an aggregate result to the Federal army of 72,000, whereas Gen Halleck sets it down in his official report at about 50,000. Col. Fry himself says that the expenses of the conscription, which he states to have been $1,300,000, is about one tenth that of the payments made for "commutation." At $300 in each instance, even taking that proportion fully, his own statement would thus reduce the 72,000 resulting from his per centage in the case to about 40,000. The figures in the above table may therefore be held considerably in excess of the actual results of the "draft." The conscription had not, it appears, been carried out in all the States; but only a few members of "the Union" having been omitted in a measure pressed so searchingly, the shortcomings on this account may in all likelihood be held covered by the excess of the forgoing figures.

Three hundred thousand men having been sought for, Col. Fry admits that he obtained but 72,000.—This general fact shows that the last draft was a failure. The average which I struck in number 24 of these dispatches will have shown, on the faith of the returns in eight districts of Massachusetts, that the breadth of the conscription covered one third of the whole material available at the North for recruitment of her armies. 1,300,000 of the flower of her manhood having been already brought into the field, this exhaustion of her resources in men available for military service is not to be wondered at even though considerations of industrial production had not already come in to establish the fact more forcibly. Assuming, however, that the draft now spoken of by Mr. Lincoln's agents be carried out to the fullest extent, the experience of last year's conscription shows that it will not yield over 144,000 men.

Industrial considerations appear to forbid the extension of the conscription now proposed to all the manhood fit for military duty within "the Union." The deficit in last year's crop of wheat at the North amounted, it appears, to the enormous quantity of 16,000,000 of bushels. The resource for substitution may, no withstanding the infamous measures that have been employed for stimulating the emigration of able-bodied Germans and Irishmen, be fairly supposed to have been already largely absorbed.

This fact will increase desertion, and tend further to reduce the actual results of the "draft" by throwing many cases that take place under the head of "substitutions," in the present returns of Col. Fry, under the head of "commutations."—The fact that 90,000 men succeeded in cheating the last conscription of victims by refusing to "report," shows a state of public opinion which, in a thinly settled country, with mountains, forests, and swamps, offers quite as safe a means as commutation or substitution for slipping through the meshes of Mr. Lincoln's net. Reasonable expectation, therefore, may look in the coming "draft" for a large addition to the per centage of the last under the head of those who declined to "report." Assuming the extension of the conscription now to all that remain available at the North for service in the field, there is, for these reasons, fair grounds for the conclusion that the results of the pending measures for that purpose will fall very far below 114,000. But may it not be confidently assumed, with the evidence before us of the fact of upwards of half a million of acres of land under one crop having already dropped out of culture, that the proposed "draft" cannot be carried out to any very great extent without overrunning the limit of commissariat necessities—as has already been done in reference to financial exigencies—to the very serious crippling of the resources of labor required for Northern production.

But Col. Fry's figures do not show the working of the "draft" beyond the time when he delivered his victims to Meade's or Rosecrans's officers bound hand and foot. My dispatch of the 10th of December went into that part of the history of last year's conscription at the point where Col Fry's returns stop. In order to follow out the subject in connection with that officer's figures I will repeat here that those conscripts added nothing whatever to the Federal strength. They dragged through the forms of drill in a spirit of morose mutiny. They sat over their camp fires in sullen groups away from the older soldiery. They regarded the volunteers around them with the hate attaching to the instruments of an obnoxious compulsion. They were never allowed to go outside the rear camp pickets; and were in fact constantly under surveillance or guard. To prevent their desertion in the hour of battle they were placed in its very front.—Of all this there can be no doubt; and the conclusion is therefore irresistible that the conscription of 1863 added nothing in fact to Mr. Lincoln's strength in the field.

The dogged spirit of last year's conscripts was, however, not merely passive. It took form, naturally, in desertion. Having been in the Federal rear for nearly two months, up to the end of October, I employed, during that time, frequent opportunities of mingling in the constant stream of conscripts returning without his consent from the army of General Meade. Of many inquiries, I noted the answers in a dozen cases, and find that of 20 "drafted" men, added on an average to each company, fifteen had deserted successfully, two had been captured in the attempt, and those actually remaining in service—"in front of the enemy," as Col Fry will have it—averaged but three! The Col Fry will have it—averaged but three! The breadth of my inquiries satisfies me that those figures present a fair scale of gravitation touching the working of the "draft;" and I therefore conclude that, of the 50,000 men which General Halleck says it contributed to the army, the number remaining in the field on the 1st of November last did not exceed eight thousand. Fewer still may be reasonably supposed to remain there now. On all these considerations I cannot avoid a very decided conviction that the proposed conscription of Mr. Lincoln's subjects will be found, by the opening of his spring campaign, a total failure. But does he really mean to carry it out?

New England proposes to supply her quota under the new conscription by decoying or forcing able bodied slaves from the peace and comfort of their Southern homes; and thus, while gratifying her *benevolence*, and, still more agreable result, saving her pocket, obtain "soldiers of the Union" without incurring any very heavy bill for bounties."

This expedient has, however, been already very nearly exhausted; and is, furthermore, tainted with danger of such inconvenient demonstrations as that of the other day at Fort Jackson. The conscription attempted by the Federalists in "rebellious" districts has resulted in such adverse fortune as the recruitment by Forrest in West Tennessee of eight or ten thousand men. That will consequently do nothing to meet Mr. Lincoln's demand for flesh and blood. Emigration, is, therefore, as I urged in numbers 30 and 31 of these dispatches, the main channel for furnishing new supplies of victims for the Federal Foo-fa fum; and as his dainty stomach prefers, it appears from the letters of his agents in Canada, to taste the blood of those *who speak English*, the result in that case rests mainly with the Government of a woman of Christian spirit and benevolent heart, Her most gracious Majesty the Queen. The moral conviction that the youth and manhood of her beloved subjects are being sacrificed under an evasion of law will, I earnestly hope, prompt that sovereign lady to say to her Ministers:

"To do a great good do a little wrong;
And curb this cruel devil of his will."

Bounties will certainly fail to hold, after midsummer much more than one-half of Mr. Lincoln's present armies from civil life. Volunteering is a thing of the past; conscription a virtual failure; negro "kidnapping" an expedient already exhausted, and "drafting" in "rebellious" districts cutting both ways; the only means of supplying the deficiencies of next midsummer in the Federal armies lie in emigration. If Lord Palmerston arrest that at once, Mr. Lincoln's small superiority of the present moment in the field will, in all probability, end with next July; and with the then probable ascendancy of the South we may, on that supposition, entertain some expectations of peace before autumn. A desperate effort will however be made in the meantime to overwhelm the Confederates by rapid movements and crushing blows. The available strength of the South is more than able to meet the whole weight likely to be hurled against her in that terrible trial, but to bring it out fully at the approaching crisis of the struggle the country requires a most cheerful and hopeful spirit. In August last this correspondence examined at length the state of public feeling here, and pointed out the fact that its elasticity appeared to have received a permanent strain under the weight of the disaster at Vicksburg and the miscarriage in Pennsylvania. The currency soon afterwards became affected, and has now become so heavy that it presses upon the spirit of the people like a load grevious to be borne. The gloom that overshadows the land presents the only doubt which the observer here can entertain touching the breadth and firmness of the from which the Confederates will present next spring to meet the bloody crisis of their conflict for all that is most dear to a gallant and generous people.

The Confederates regard the course of France and England with bitter disappointment. A sanguine people, they have met in the neutrality of these countries, on which they counted for countenance, a heavy discouragement. The despondency which rests on them now at the turning point of their fate may be referred to a very great extent to the conviction in the public mind that the great maritime powers, if not hostile to the Confederacy, would under the provision of the North to that of her iron-clad vessels by the appearance off the coast of the long and anxiously expected confederate rams.

THE FORT JACKSON EMEUTE.—The first report of this affair were exaggerated beyond the usual exaggerations which come from the Mississippi.—But there was something in it, although of no great consequence to any one. The last that we have seen of it in the Northern papers is given as follows in a letter from New Orleans, dated 12th ult., to the Boston *Courier*:

Our military authorities have just had a foretaste of the wisdom in trusting important military posts to colored troops, by a revolt at Fort Jackson which the newspapers in this department, "by authority," will inform you was "only an altercation between an officer and some of the men; and soon quieted." I have my information from the lips of the officer in command of that post, the garrison of which consisted of five hundred colored soldiers and officers, and twenty white men, (though some of the colored men are as white as some of their white (officers) and so serious had become the revolt that the officers themselves declared that had they attempted to exercise any authority over their command, every white man would have been killed, and the negroes have been in possession of the Fort which cost the United States Government so much of life and treasure, and so many months delay to get into our hands. It has been decided that this regiment of "colored men must be mustered out of the service," in consequence of this altercation between an officer and some of the men

The New York *Times* has an account of the mutiny at Fort Jackson. It grew out of Col. Benedict's asking ten negroes coming in from beyond the lines their authority for leaving. They answered insolently, and he, seizing a whip, commenced lashing them, and a revolt ensued. One hundred negroes seized loaded guns and fired on the Union troops wildly, most of the shots ranging too high. No one is reported hurt. The rioters held possession of the camp all day and night. The next day moral force prevailed. The ringleaders were arrested and tried by court-martial. The writer attaches the blame to Adjutant-General Thomas, whose indiscreet speeches gave the negroes an exalted idea of their position. An Ohio regiment has been ordered to camp near the fort, to provide against a recurrence of revolt.

CAPTURE OF GEN. VANCE.—The capture of Gen. Vance, of North Carolina, in East Tennessee, is confirmed. He was sent to Knoxville. The following is an account of it from a letter dated Asheville, N. C., January 18:

On Wednesday last, Gen Vance, with about 150 men entered the village of Savieville, about 28 miles southeast of Knoxville, and capt