

The Alexandria Gazette

TUESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 2.

In the U. S. House of Representatives, yesterday, Mr. Conkling offered a resolution, which was adopted, directing the Committee on Naval Affairs to inquire and report as to the best mode of placing vessels of war on Lake Ontario when the exigency shall arise, and of establishing water communication from other waters to the Lakes. A resolution, submitted by Mr. Vallandigham, was adopted, directing an inquiry as to the alleged action of the Postmaster General in deciding what newspapers may and what shall not be transmitted through the mails. Mr. Cox, of Ohio, submitted a preamble and resolution reciting that illegal, arbitrary arrests had been made by the agents of the government, and declaring that the House condemns all such arrests. The resolution was tabled by a vote of 80 to 40. Mr. Richardson offered a similar resolution in relation to the arrest and confinement of citizens of Illinois, which was also tabled.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S Message was sent in to Congress, yesterday. The principal and most important portion of the Message relates to the subject of "compensated emancipation." He proposes compensation for all slaves emancipated by the States at any time before the year 1900; the freedom of slaves liberated by the war, and the compensation of loyal owners. The proposition is argued at length. The idea that white labor would be affected by freeing negro labor is assailed. Proceedings under the proclamation of September 22d will not be stayed because of the recommendation of this plan, and it is strongly urged upon the approval of Congress to the close of the message.—The Secretary of War, in his report, endorses the emancipation proclamation of the President, and recommends the employment of the slaves.

The licensed liquor dealers, proprietors of restaurants, &c., of this place, held a meeting last week, and passed a series of resolutions in relation to the restrictions imposed upon their trade, and appointed a committee to wait upon Gen. Slough, and request of him that they should have the same privilege allowed to dealers in Washington and Georgetown. They state that it is the unlicensed dealers, and the illicit traffic in liquors, that makes the mischief. Mr. McKenzie, present by invitation, assured the meeting of his interest in the subject, and speeches were made by Messrs. W. L. Penn, Donnelly and Westcott.

The railroad on Union street is being extended south, to the river lot adjoining Mr. Goodhand's ship-yard, where a government wharf is to be built.

A man named J. T. Kirby, a Canadian, who has been figuring in Washington, Baltimore, and other places, and who has been passing to and fro between the Confederate and Federal lines, has been arrested in Richmond on the charge of being a Federal spy, and committed to jail for trial.

The Secretary of the Interior recommends an appropriation for the construction by the Alexandria and Washington R. R. company, of a railroad bridge across the Potomac, side by side with the Long Bridge.

COURT—(From the record)—The December term of the County Court met yesterday: present R. Crupper, P. J., L. McKenzie, Hugh McGinnis and Charles H. Payne, associates.

Two conveyances have been admitted to record since the last term.

The will of Margaret Deakins, was proved and ordered to be recorded.

In the Chancery case of Barnitz and Brinton vs. Gemmel et al., it appearing to this Court that Geo W. Brent, one of the Commissioners of sale, is disqualified from acting, it was ordering that the other commissioner proceed to perform the duties.

A license to keep an ordinary at No. 68 King street, by Murphy & Ehrhardt was refused.

The proceedings of a meeting of merchants and liquor dealers of this city were presented to the Court, complaining that they had been deprived of prosecuting their legitimate business as merchants and dealers, by an order of the Military Authority of this city, to their great injury, and asking the Court to aid them in having the said military order, so far rescinded or modified as to enable them to prosecute a business, the right of which they had secured by fully complying with the law of the State, and for which they had paid the license money required. The proceedings of the dealers set forth fully the hardship of their case, and the Court doth feel they are at least entitled to the aid of the Court, under the circumstances, and do respectfully submit to the Military Governor the justice of gratifying the prayer or application of the dealers, under such restrictions as may seem proper and just.

Pending the examination of three persons charged with grand larceny, in stealing from Davy & Harmon, sundry articles, the Court adjourned till to-day.

The emancipation project, as presented in the President's Message, has no reference to the forcible emancipation proposed in the proclamation of September 22d. That project is to be enforced, as is supposed, on the first of January, as a war measure.

The Washington Republican argues against a further advance of Gen. Burnside's army, on the ground that Washington would be in danger from the advance of the Confederates, if the Federal troops should press further onward to Richmond. The newspapers, however, say that Gen. Burnside will press on, and that he expects in a few days a great battle.

[COMMUNICATED.]

The statements made as to the "astringent order" concerning liquor, having caused some alarm, it is proper to mention that, after a careful analysis, by a competent critic, of a bottle of "old rye," purchased before the order, no sign of aloes or alum could be discovered.

RECTIFIER.

Mr. George P. Kane, of Baltimore, has published an address to the people of Maryland, speaking in the strongest and severest language of Mr. Secretary Seward, as being the person who had him imprisoned, and promising, on another occasion, to make good what he says about him.

The ultraists, at the North, are said to be dissatisfied with the tone of President Lincoln's Message.

The London Times of the 20th of November, says: "The report that Mr Seward has addressed our Government in a tone of displeasure at the aid alleged to have been given to the Alabama in British ports, created for a time some little uneasiness on the Stock Exchange, many persons believing that no minister would be willing to put himself in such a position as that which Mr. Seward occupies on this question, unless it were in the desperate hope of finding a cause of international quarrel at any cost, in order to avert impending events at home." The latest by the Hibernia is to Friday, November 21, by telegraph to Liverpool, namely: "The leading papers reiterate the arguments that the Federal Government has no grounds for complaint in the case of the Alabama, the Federals having notoriously taken advantage of all opportunities offered."

Mr. S. T. Wallis, of Md., writes to the N. York World, that the political prisoners from Maryland, were released "unconditionally," without any terms or conditions whatever.

EXPEDITION TO ALDIE, UPPERVILLE, AND SNICKER'S AND ASHBY'S GAPS.—FAIRFAX COURT HOUSE, Nov. 30.—A portion of the expedition that started from Chantilly, on Friday morning, returned last night. Aldie, Middleburg, Upperville, Salem, Paris, Snicker's Gap and Ashby's Gap were visited, and no Confederates were seen except at the last named place, where a few of their pickets were thrown out. The expedition was under the command of Col. Von Gilsmith, and comprised a force of Infantry and two batteries.—*Phil. Inq.*

The rumor of the removal of Gen. Meigs continues in Washington.

There are various reports about the Confederate strength at Fredericksburg; some say that Bragg's army has come up, and that Jackson is close at hand; but there is nothing known for certain except that they have a large and increasing force, and show every disposition to make a determined resistance to the crossing of the Federal troops.

A dispatch states that Gen. Sherman's forces left Memphis on Wednesday, and that Gen. Grant's army moved toward Holly Springs on Friday in fighting trim.

William McPeak, the Janitor of the Smithsonian Institution, died in Washington, a few days ago.

Gen. Burnside has issued an order relative to passes to and from Aquia Creek, and placing regulations and restrictions on the same.

The Supreme Court commenced its session in Washington, yesterday. Judge Taney was not present.

General Pope passed through Milwaukee, on his way East, on Tuesday last. In response to calls made by a crowd which gathered around the hotel where he was staying, he said that he was proud to be once more among Western people, whom he loved, honored, and respected; he had left them against his own judgment and with regret; he had urged upon the Secretary of War to allow him to remain in the West, but without avail; he did not choose to allude to the sad history that followed.

The investigation in the case of Police Superintendent Kennedy of New York for the arrest and detention of Mrs. Brinsmade, was brought to a close on Friday.