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Voluntary communications, containing interesting important news, solicited from any quarter. Note letters from the various counties of the State especially desired.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1866.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The Union Pacific Railroad is now graded to within twenty miles of Fort Leavenworth.

Mr. General Hindman has arrived at Helena, from Mexico. The General remains at Orizaba, his place of residence.

The mercury climbed down to five degrees below zero in the Chicago thermometer, Wednesday morning, and at Madison, Wisconsin, the mercury stood at seven degrees below zero.

In the House of Representatives, on the 13th inst., Mr. Taylor, of Tennessee, offered a resolution, which was agreed to, calling upon the Secretary of War for any information in his possession relative to the New Orleans riots in July last.

A Boston dispatch of the 12th says: The privateer Lizzie is not the only Fenian vessel whose crews are entertained for the British Queen Cuba, which left Liverpool for Halifax on the 1st inst.

The House of Delegates of Virginia, on the 7th inst., on an adopted the vote of the previous day rejecting the bill suspending for six months from the 1st of January, the existing law requiring debtors to pay interest on debts. After a long debate the bill was ordered to a third reading by two majority.

The United States Treasury held on the 12th inst. $96,716,000 in gold, of which $21,441,000 is in gold certificates, the balance belonging absolutely to the government. The coin receipts have largely diminished the last month, which, with disbursements on government account, explains the smallness of its present rate of increase.

The Washington *Star* of the 13th inst. says the report that pardon will be offered to John H. Surratt on condition that he will testify against others is untrue. Any testimony given by him must be voluntarily on his part, and with the understanding that he does not hereby save his neck.

A Memphis dispatch of the 12th inst. to the Cincinnati *Gazette* says: "The soldiers at Corinth killed a notorious horse thief who was attempting to steal a good horse. Some little excitement ensued but no collision. The Vicksburg grand jury sent a complimentary address to Gen. Wood."

The Secretary of the Treasury on the 12th inst. received a certificate of deposit in favor of Mr. Henry Merrill, for the sum of four hundred pounds sterling, on the London and County Banking Company of London, which sum Mr. Merrill reports remained in his hands while acting as an officer of the so-called Confederate States at the close of the war. The Secretary has ordered the money to be collected and placed with the funds arising from the sale of captured and abandoned property.

A Washington dispatch of the 12th says: "The House Committee on Elections will have before it to-day the only case of the session. It is that of Thomas against Arnell, the present member from the Tennessee Tenth District. Arnell is a Radical and Thomas a Johnson man. The latter claimed the election of Arnell illegal because of the unconstitutionality of the present registry law of Tennessee, preventing rebels from voting. The decision will be very important, because it will form a precedent for several contests, which will come off next Congress.

There was a meeting of the Southern loyalists at Washington on the 12th inst., at which Thos. J. Durrant presided. An address was adopted which ignores the present Southern government, and proposes that the States be made a territorial condition, out of which new States are to be created by Congress, the latter body to provide constitutions for them, republican in form. This programme is to be urged upon Congress immediately.

Colonel J. W. Forney writes a letter on the 12th inst., to Hon. Wilmot Worthington declining to be a candidate for United States Senator, vice Cowan, from Pennsylvania. While thus declining, Colonel Forney says: "With no disposition to undervalue others, I am free to say that I think the election of Hon. T. Stevens successor of Mr. Cowan would promote lasting harmony in our political household and would unquestionably secure to the State and the nation a champion of their great principles of matchless experience, integrity, and courage."

Governor Fletcher, of Missouri, has issued a proclamation to the citizens of Lafayette and Jackson counties, notifying them that in consequence of his inability to execute legal process in those counties he has ordered a militia force in their midst to compel obedience to the law; that said counties be required to defray the entire expense of the military organization; but when the people conclude to enforce the laws against all violators thereof, and give usual protection to the law abiding citizens, the troops will be withdrawn.

In the Circuit Court of Simpson county, Ky., on the 12th inst., the grand jury found a true bill against a party who threw a train off the Louisville and Nashville Railroad some weeks ago, and robbed the passengers, and subsequently murdered one of their companions, for murder and robbery. Their murder was that of Harvey King, one of their gang, subsequent to the robbery of the train. The names of the indicted parties are: W. F. King, Charles Smith, Abner and Alex Graves, Wesley Finn, William Finn, D. R. Wakefield, Joseph Payne, John Calbert, and Robert Hoy, a negro.

THE SCHOOL FUND BONDS.

We find the following in the Louisville papers of yesterday:

MEMPHIS, Dec. 12.—Some uneasiness having been occasioned by the action of Gov. Brownlow's proclamation in reference to the Tennessee National Bank of Memphis, a committee was appointed by the Legislature to examine its status, and report that it has promptly met all demands and fully endorse its soundness, and that no uneasiness need be felt regarding its ability to meet all demands.

The information in this city yesterday evening, which came to us from a reliable course, was that the parties sent to Memphis to look after the transactions between Treasurer Stanford and the Tennessee National Bank, returned with three hundred and forty-five thousand dollars. Whether this sum was in the bonds loaned, or those of a similar denomination and series, or in United States or National Bank currency, we are not informed. It is also stated that the Bank proposed to return the remainder—three hundred and twenty thousand—in three, six and nine months, but had not yet given satisfactory security.

The New York *Evening Post* in a recent number makes a most pernicious suggestion. Speaking of the relation which the District of Columbia holds to the government, it says:

"It is the duty of Congress, as the representative of the whole nation, and of the national idea, to so legislate for the District of Columbia, as to make that what the best sense of the nation would make its whole territory; to make it the highest and fullest exponent of the whole country. It has the power to do this, and if it does less it fails of its duty in a matter more important than is commonly thought."

The *Post* would have the District, whose legislation and government the constitution commits exclusively to Congress, used for the purpose of experimentation as to the best model upon which to refashion the States, and proceeds upon the idea that when it has moulded the District of Columbia to its liking—put it in commission, perhaps, instructed to bring it out according to the Radical ideal—it can then venture to shape Virginia and other States to the same standard. Its language does not say so much, but clearly means it.

Time was when that very able paper had truer conceptions of the nature and functions of the Federal government; but it is now utterly debauched and wallowing in the mire of centralization. When it became the champion of fantastic ideas about the equality of the negro, it parted with all just views of the theory of the government. It may learn, after a terrible experience, that the alteration of the whole system of government—consolidating and aggrandizing power in the Federal head—to maintain its ideas will destroy the government and work an injury to both the races who live under it. Congress was made to unite the States, not the models of State. States make Congress; and when the rule is reversed it will work badly.

A PERPETUAL CONGRESS.

The Radicals during control of Congress have determined that it shall be a perpetual train, if the success of their scheme shall require it. On the third inst. a bill was passed by the House of Representatives by the very decided vote of 120 to 29—the negative vote being composed wholly of Democrats—providing that each Congress beginning with the fortieth, shall hold three sessions, two as now, and another beginning the 4th of March next, and every second year thereafter. There seems little doubt that this bill will be passed by the Senate. There are a number of States which have not yet held their Congressional elections, but provision is made for these States holding their elections at an earlier day than is now provided for the 2th section making this provision, as follows:

"Be it further enacted, That the qualifications of the several States now represented in Congress, who have not held elections for Representatives to the fortieth Congress, to assemble on the 4th of March, 1867, are hereby so changed and altered as to empower the Governors of States to fix a day prior to March 4, 1867, for the election of such Representatives, and to make all necessary regulations for the election of such Representatives, which regulations shall conform, except as to time, as nearly as possible to the existing State regulations, or such regulations as may be prescribed by the State Legislatures, where the same may be in session: Provided, That if in any case the Governor of any State, or the Legislature thereof when in session, shall deem it inexpedient to hold such election prior to the 4th of March, 1867, as aforesaid, then this act shall not operate to invalidate the election when held in accordance with the State law."

It will be seen that this section is framed so as to cut off the Southern States not represented in the present Congress. It seems to be the determination of the Radicals that they shall have no part or lot in enacting the laws by which they are to be governed. The determination of the present Congress is that these states shall have no voice in the next Congress, but in the Presidential election of 1868, and so a long portion of the Radical members from the States in which elections have already been held have been returned to the next Congress they will have the power to carry out the programme now agreed upon.

Under this law, for it is only a question of time as to its becoming a law, Tennessee will be entitled to Representatives in the fortieth Congress, and it is probable that an election will be held so as to have Representatives there. The provision by Congress of the law to which we have referred, will necessitate changes in the time of holding the election for members of Congress in this and a number of other States. It is probable that upon the reassembling of the Legislature in January next this subject will receive the attention the Radical majority in Congress desire.

THE Radical organ in this city says:

If the Rebel States continued to be States in the Union during the war, they had a right to send Representatives to Congress, while the course of Congress and the battle of Shiloh can testify.

Every department of the Federal government in Washington knew these States were in and again. The Secretary of State in declining the foreign offers of mediation, officially declared that the true mediation was the reassumption of the vacant seats in the two Houses of Congress. The Supreme Judiciary held them as States and opened its inferior courts in them during the war. When the battle of Shiloh was in progress, Messrs. Maynard and Clements sat in the House of Representatives from Tennessee, and Mr. Bridges was admitted nearly a year afterwards. The theory that States forfeited their right to representation and every other quality of a State was invented for Radical purposes. The war did not last long enough for them to destroy the constitution by military engines, but *Constitutional truth* earth is the watchword of radicalism.

THE Cincinnati *Gazette* is exercised in regard to the naming of Tennessee railroads. It has for some time had the politics of this State as an object of special care and solicitude, and has exercised itself to a painful degree about various Tennessee affairs. It objects to calling the projected road from this city to Knoxville, the "Atlantic, Tennessee and Pacific Railroad." This is a somewhat high sounding title, and contains one element—"Atlantic"—which we do not remember to have seen before. But the name in full is not inexact, inexpressive nor incorrect as the *Gazette* would have it to be; it certainly is not incomprehensive nor incomprehensible. In the future of the railroad system which is to belt this continent, it will be an important link in the connection between the two oceans, and will stretch through Tennessee from its eastern to its western limit—six hundred miles or more. A name embodying the names of the terminii of the connections of a railroad, and that of a considerable portion of its track, neither intends nor does any impropriety. Atlantic, Tennessee and Pacific is as proper and proper as Union Pacific, Atlantic and Great Western, or Chicago and North-western. It may be that the *Gazette* people are interested in having no other western point than Cincinnati in communication with the Atlantic, and adverse to any project west of the Mississippi that does not contribute to the growth of Porkopolis.

THE Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial* telegraphs that paper on the 13th inst. that the position taken by Thad. Stevens in the House of Representatives on the 11th, in regard to the status of Jeff. Davis, is the general topic of conversation. Those who have painted for the life of Mr. Davis will of course object to Mr. Stevens position, if not his conclusions. But they will gradually yield to an inexorable necessity which demands the concession to the Confederate. Mr. Stevens tells them plainly that not a single Confederate can be convicted of treason under our constitution and laws. A man of Mr. Stevens' intelligence could not have arrived suddenly at this conclusion. He must have been aware from the first that Mr. Davis could not be convicted of treason, and that the denunciation of the President by his party for not bringing Mr. Davis to trial, was a sham and a cheat. It is disgraceful to our politics that the leaders of a party having control of the legislative department of the government should lead themselves and such a deception that they may retain the power that adventitious circumstances placed in their hands. The leaders of the Radical party have involved themselves in such inconsistencies, that when "the madness that rules the hour" shall have passed away, they cannot hope to retain the confidence of even their present dupes.

PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES OF THE TERRITORIAL SCHEME.

The New York *World* shows how completely the present Congress would have to stultify itself to carry out the scheme of reducing the ten Southern States not represented in Congress to the condition of territories. The difficulties which stand in the way of consummating this pet scheme of the Radicals are such that no ingenuity will be sufficient to surmount them, short of the most flagrant usurpation. The *World* says:

One of the first effects of degrading the States into territories would be to shatter and demolish the judicial system of the United States as established therein. We hope to make this very clear, but the argument will require the fixed attention of the reader. It is necessary to premise that the judicial system of the United States has no application to the territories. Chief Justice Marshall (American Insurance Company vs. Canter, 1 Peters, 546), speaking of territorial courts, thus expounded their character: "These courts are not constitutional courts, in which the judicial power conferred by the constitution on the general government can be deposited. They are incapable of receiving it. They are legislative courts created in virtue of the general right to sovereignty which exists in the government.

The jurisdiction with which they are invested is not a part of that judicial power which is conferred in the third article of the constitution, but is conferred by Congress, in the execution of those general powers that body possesses over the territories of the United States." All the Judges of the regular judiciary hold during good behavior; but the territorial Judges for only four years. The United States Circuit and District Courts can be held only in States, the two systems being entirely distinct and inconsistent. The consequences, then, of reducing States to a territorial condition, would be to demolish all the Judicial Courts within those States, and introduce a judicial chaos. The effect would be a denial of justice to all Northern citizens, in the courts of the United States, against debtors and other persons with whom they may have business relations in the South. An inhabitant of a territory has no standing in any of the United States Courts. The Supreme Court has decided (The Corporation of New Orleans *vs.* Winter *et. al.* 1 Wheaton, 91) "the fact that the plaintiff is a citizen of a territory and the defendant of a State does not enable the courts of the United States to take jurisdiction." The constitution confers jurisdiction in suits "between citizens of different States;" inhabitants of territories not being included in this designation. It therefore appears that not only would the courts of the United States be abolished in the States degraded into territories, but they would be without jurisdiction over the inhabitants, even if they could continue to exist.

A point of the first consequence in this connection, is, that this very Congress, so recently as its last session, repeatedly recognized the continued existence of the Southern States, as States, by several laws it passed relating to the judiciary. It is necessary to bear in mind that the circuit and district courts of the United States can have no existence in Territories, but only in States. In the light of this incontrovertible truth, read the following act of the last session:

CHAP. CCX.—An Act to fix the number of Judges in the Supreme Court of the United States, and to change certain Judicial Circuits.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That no vacancy in the office of associate justice of the Supreme Court, shall be filled by appointment until the number of associate justices shall be reduced to six; and thereafter the said Supreme Court shall consist of a Chief Justice of the United States and six associate justices, any four of whom shall be a quorum; and the said court shall hold one term annually at the seat of government, and such adjourned or special terms as it may find necessary for the despatch of business.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the first and second circuits shall hereafter be constituted; that the districts of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware shall constitute the third circuit; and the districts of Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina shall constitute the fourth circuit; that the districts of Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, shall constitute the fifth circuit; that the districts of Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky, and Tennessee, shall constitute the sixth circuit; that the districts of Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin shall constitute the seventh circuit; and the districts of Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and Arkansas shall constitute the eighth circuit; and the districts of California, Oregon, and Nevada shall constitute the ninth circuit.

Approved, July 23, 1866.

It will be seen that every one of the ten excluded States is here mentioned by name and recognized as a State in the Union, since it is only in States in the Union that these courts can be held. Congress has therefore estopped itself from denying their Statehood now. If they have lost their standing as States, it must have been either by their acts of secession, or by the completion of our conquest in the surrender of the Confederate armies; certainly by nothing that has taken place since the passage of the above recited act of Congress. But by that act Congress virtually declared that, in spite of the acts of secession, and in spite of the surrender, they were, at this date, States in the Union. The act for prescribing the time of holding the Circuit Courts in Virginia implies a similar admission. The famous civil rights bill is full of such admissions, inasmuch as the Circuit and District Courts of the United States are the pivots on which the whole local machinery turns for its execution.

Another consideration of the first magnitude involved in this controversy, respects the corporate property and pecuniary obligations of the deposed States. The public buildings, records, and other property will cease to belong to the States when they become extinct, and will, of necessity, accrue to the conqueror. In pursuance of the same principle, the United States will assume all the Southern State debts. It is an established principle of public law that the conqueror becomes liable for all the just pecuniary obligations of a conquered state. This follows from the fact that the conquered State, by losing its sovereignty, loses its control over the property of the citizens, and with that ability to satisfy the just demands of public creditors. If it be said that the property of the territories may be held for the debts of the defunct States, the assertion discredits the intelligence of him who makes it. For how will the taxes to pay the State debts be collected? It must be either by the authority of the territorial legislatures, or by the authority of Congress. No other is possible. But territorial legislatures there will be none, for the simple reason that the people will refuse to choose any legislatures under it. And even if they were to choose legislatures, they would refuse to tax their constituents to pay debts which had legally devolved upon the Federal government. But what, it may be asked, shall prevent Congress from imposing taxes on the property to pay the debt incurred when it was a State? The constitution of the United States prevents, by completely forbidding it. We copy its language:

All duties, imports and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

No capitation, or other direct tax shall be laid unless in proportion to the census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

The bulk of Southern property consisting in land and the improvements upon it, the public debts of the States would necessarily be met, if paid by themselves, chiefly by taxes on real estate. But Congress is forbidden to lay any tax on real estate, or direct tax of any kind, except by distributing it over the whole country in proportion to the census. The inevitable consequence of the territorial scheme would be the assumption of the Southern State debts by the Federal government, and their payment by taxes upon the whole people.

Another consequence would be the relief of the Southern people from all taxes for the support of local officers, whose salaries would be paid out of the Federal treasury, as in the case of the other territories. Nothing is more certain than that the people would refuse all voluntary participation in the territorial governments. There would, therefore, be no territorial legislatures, nor any local officers of any kind, only such as were appointed from Washington. The consequence would be, that the people of the United States would not only be burdened with the Southern State debts, in addition to their own, but with the whole expense of maintaining internal order in the South. The difficulty and friction resulting from the refusal of the people to co-operate in the territorial governments, would quadruple the expense as well as transfer it.

Without pursuing this subject through its wide ramifications, the points we have touched upon should convince Congress that they have embarked upon a undertaking of which they will have abundant reason to repent.

THE Tennessee delegation in the United States House of Representatives occupy places on the following committees: On Territories, Mr. Cooper; on Elections, Mr. Stokes; on Indian Reservations, Mr. Leftwich; on Public Expenditures, Mr. Arnell; on Mining, Mr. Taylor; on District of Columbia, Mr. Maynard; on New Orleans (Sect. Acts), Mr. Taylor; on Southern Railroads, (select.) Mr. Maynard, chairman.

THE REORGANIZATION OF THE SOUTH.

The Test Oath Modified—Unwilling Rebels to be Distinguished from the Willing—A Novel Proposition.

Correspondence of the Cincinnati Gazette.

WASHINGTON, December 12.—A strong movement is being made here by leading men from North Carolina and other parts of the South, to secure a reorganization of State government, whose action can take a certain form of loyalty, which they claim would allow those to participate who, after Mr. Lincoln's amnesty proclamation of December 8, 1863, were in favor of the best attainable peace, and heartily opposed to any further effort at establishing a confederacy. This is a movement distinct from that presented through Judge Kelley, chiefly on the part of Louisiana men.

The petition for the formation of the new State governments reports that the people were driven into the rebellion, and Union men overawed, but that very soon many became convinced that they could not succeed, and after Mr. Lincoln's proclamation of amnesty, in December, 1863, a strong peace party sprang up, which the Rebel government attempted to crush by the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, and by persecutions. At this time party lines were very closely drawn upon the peace issue, and all who desired to see the Union restored were on one side, while all who were really secessionists were found on the other side. An oath recognizing this distinction would put those in power who were simply misled, and afterward saw their error and repented of it, and exclude all who were avowed and bitter secessionists. This class is now discouraged by the course of the President, and by the fact that Congress seems disposed to make no distinction between them and the original secessionists.

For these reasons they ask that those who can take the following oath be allowed to frame new State governments:

I, A. B., do solemnly swear on the holy evangelist of Almighty God, that on the fourth day of March, 1864, and at all times thereafter, I would have willingly complied with the requirements of the proclamation of the President of the United State, issued on the 8th day of December, 1863, had safe opportunity of so doing been allowed me; that on the said 4th of March, 1864, and at all times thereafter, I was opposed to the continuance of the rebellion, and to the establishment of the so-called Confederate States government, and voluntarily gave no aid or encouragement thereto, but earnestly desired the success of the Union and the suppression of all armed resistance to the government of the United States and in the Union of the States thereunder.

This plan is particularly suited to North Carolina, as there the peace movement in 1863 was the strongest, and it is supported by many of her ablest and soundest men, while, at the same time, they propose it as a general plan of organization.

THAD. STEVENS ON THE STATUS OF JEFF. DAVIS.

The following is a fuller report of Thad. Stevens' remarks on Mr. Lawrence's bill to hang Jeff. Davis—for that was its object—in the House of Representatives on the 11th inst., than was forwarded by telegraph:

Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, obtained the floor and said: Mr. Speaker, I approach with great distrust all bills of this kind, which are evidently brought forward for the purpose of ascertaining how we can convict men whom we cannot convict under laws existing when the crimes were committed. I do not believe that it be consistent, I do not believe it consistent as to moderate, that any law by which we can or may be able to punish men, however guilty, that could not be punished under the laws existing when the crimes were committed. Could we now change the constitution so as to change the place of the trial of traitors, to say that the venue might be changed, and that they should be tried by jurors summoned from another bailiwick? The constitution and our laws provide very carefully that, especially in the case of treason, the party charged with that crime must be tried at the place where the overt act was committed, in a district previously ascertained by law, and by a jury from that bailiwick. Now, any law which professes to change that in any respect looks to me so much like an attempt to commit judicial murder that I have always been afraid to attempt it. I am afraid that the traitors in the South, if tried under our existing constitution and laws, will not one of them be convicted. I should never attempt to try them for treason—I would try them as belligerents under the law of nations and the laws of war.

Mr. Lawrence, of Ohio. We have no reason to expect of the Administration any such trial.

Mr. Stevens. I am stating what I would do if I were the Administration. [Laughter.] Now, although I would not discourage trials for treason, I mention this to show that I am convinced that none of these traitors can ever be convicted of treason under our present constitution and laws; and yet I would rather let every man of them go unpunished forever than to make a law now by which they could be punished. I think our government would be endangered in its future existence, in its sense of justice, in its character before the world, by conduct of that kind, more than it would by enduring the evil. I think the British government suffered more from its murder of Russell, although it was done by means of a court condemning him, than it would have done had he been suffered to escape. It was by just such contrivances as this that that judicial murder was effected, and by which the British government suffered more than it would have done by the escape of forty traitors. I think our government had better be careful how it tampers with the crime or the remedy. It had better treat them as guilty party of a political offense and partly of offense against the law, that now to attempt to frame laws because otherwise the malefactors might escape. This professes to be a bill to make indefinite the prosecution of one of those offenses which of all others should be quieted by lapse of time. Although treason was high a crime it can possibly be committed, yet there are generally so many engaged in the crime of treason and in rebellion, that there must be some quieting law, and in my judgment there ought to be. Now, it does not follow that every traitor will escape who is not prosecuted within three years of the time of the commission of the offense. The statute never runs in any case, unless it is possible to enforce the remedy. Rarely runs from the time it was possible to enforce it. For instance, I will tell you to the men now in Europe. Benjamin, Slidell and others. I do not suppose that anybody will say, that while they were absent beyond seas the statute of limitations would run. The statute would begin to run when the time arrived that they could be prosecuted. But whether that be so or not, still, during the time of war, during the prosecution of the war, the crime continued; it was a continuing offense, and the offense continued up to the time when peace shall be proclaimed, which it never yet has been. I know that a gentleman in this city has made public a statement which he desired to have considered as equal to the decree of James and Charles, of England, overruling the law. But it is of no more importance than so much waste paper. The question of peace or war is yet to be decided by the party. I say there is no peace. This nation is still in a belligerent condition; and the conquered belligerents are within the power of the conqueror, to be dealt with as captives, not as criminals. Therefore, sir, I can see no necessity for a measure of this sort. But if there was a necessity, I should certainly object to any alteration of the law as it now exists in regard to treason, which would enable the government to convict, where it is confessed that a conviction could not be obtained under the law as it stood at the time of the commission of the offense. I should be very glad to see condign punishment inflicted upon many of these men, but not capital punishment. I never realized the sufficiency of the atonement made by the execution of the miserable Wirz, a Dutchman, I believe, with a lump body, who was obeying the orders of his superiors, and who in ordinary times, when men were tried according to law, would never have been convicted, because the government was answerable, and he, I do not believe, that the starvation of thousands of Union prisoners is to be laid to the charge of the execution of one of the keepers.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Congressional Proceedings

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—SENATE.—Mr. Ramsey introduced a bill making the Agricultural College Scrip receivable for preemption fees. Referred to Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Sprague introduced joint resolution instructing the Secretary of the Navy to direct naval officers at Panama and Aspinwall to aid those in the survey of the new route to the Pacific through the isthmus, whenever practicable, without expense to the government.

The Chair laid before the Senate an inquiry from the Secretary of the Senate, whether the Tennessee Senators should be paid from the date of their admission or the commencement of the present Congress. Referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Fessenden, from Finance Committee, reported House bill to supply the deficiency in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June, 1867.

The bill passed with amendments. The item of $45,000, for facilitating telegraph communication between the Atlantic and Pacific States, was stricken from the bill as it came from the House.

HOUSE.—Mr. Rousseau introduced a bill to authorize the purchase or construction of a military or postal line of telegraph under the directions of the Postoffice Department. Referred to the Postoffice Committee.

Mr. Washburne, of Ill., a bill for the construction of a government telegraph from Washington to New York. Read and referred.

Mr. Shellenberger presented a memorial from the loyal people of Louisiana, asking Congress to establish, under the control of the United States, a loyal government for that State. Referred to the special committee on New Orleans riots.

Mr. Julian introduced a bill providing for civil governments for districts lately in revolt against the United States government. The bill provides for a temporary government for all late rebellious States, except Tennessee; suffrage being given to all males without respect to color, and all who have borne arms against the United States, or held civil or military office under the Confederacy to be ineligible to hold office. Referred to the Committee on Reconstruction.

House concurred in the Senate amendment to the deficiency bill.

FOREIGN NEWS.

By the Cable.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—Noon.—The Times of this morning in an editorial takes a hopeful view of the troubles in Ireland, and thinks there will be no serious difficulty in quelling the Fenian rebellion with the civil forces alone.

PARIS, Dec. 14.—Under the new organization the French army, with the usual reserves, will foot up one million two hundred thousand men. It is expected that such a mighty standing army, in times of peace, will have no good effect. There is much misgiving to the project among the thoughtful in this city.

ROME, Dec. 14.—The anticipated troubles in this city consequent on the withdrawal of the French troops have not occured. The city is tranquil.

It is denied that the Pope has any intention of leaving the Holy City in unanimously abandoned.

BERLIN, Dec. 14.—The government of Prussia is about to send an Envoy to Vienna. Now that peace has come, there is a determination on the part of both Austria and Prussia to renew their former relations. Negotiations to this end will be opened by the Envoys.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 14, P. M.—The steamship Jadices which went ashore on Irish coast near Wexford, is a total loss.

ROME, Dec. 14.—Another man-of-war has arrived at Civita Vechhea.

PARIS, Dec. 14.—The mission of Gen. Henry to Florence, is in reference solely to negotiations between the government of Italy and the Holy See.

The United States has commenced legal proceedings in first tribunal of the Seine, to recover the amount of 225,000 in francs paid M. M. Aymes, by agent of the Confederate government, on account for building five iron-clad vessels alleged to have been constructed for the use of the Emperor of China, but actually intended for the Confederate navy, though the vessels were never delivered.

PARIS, Dec. 14—Evening.—The latest advices from China state that the French expedition to Cora was meeting with no resistance.

LONDON, Dec. 14—Evening.—Recent intelligence from Japan announces that the civil war which has been devastating that country, has been suspended, truce having been declared between the hostile factions.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Rejection of the Constitutional Amendment—The Suspension of Corporeal Punishment.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 13.—The Howard amendment was rejected to-day by the North Carolina Legislature. In the Senate the vote for its ratification was one, and for its rejection forty-four. The House vote for its ratification was ten, for its rejection ninety-four.

The Legislature will send three commissioners to Washington to confer with the authorities about the military order suspending corporeal punishment.

NEWBERN, N. C., Dec. 13.—The business of the county court was suspended to-day in consequence of the order of General Sickles forbidding the infliction of corporeal punishment on any one. The State laws prescribed it for certain offenses on both black and white. Considerable excitement prevails here on the subject. The magistrates will meet to-morrow to consider what action is necessary.

Severe Storm at Buenos Ayres—Robbery, etc., etc.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14—The *Herald's* Rio Janeiro correspondence of November 28th, says: The French convoy, Count De Beaucouil, had had an interview with leaders of both the hostile armies in Paraguay.

A severe storm visited Buenos Ayres on the 28th and 29th of October. Considerable property was destroyed and twenty-three sailors drowned.

The allies on the Plate were compelled to suspend hostilities, owing to the want of reinforcements, and severe floods that are prevailing.

Mr. Washburn, American Minister to Paraguay, left Buenos Ayres on the 6th of October, for Ascension.

Caleb Lyon, formerly Governor of Idaho, was robbed of $7,000 on Wednesday, on the train from New York, while on his way to Washington. The money stolen belonged to the government, which Mr. Lyon was conveying to Washington. He was going to settle his accounts with the Indian Bureau, as Superintendent of Indian affairs for Idaho, having been superseded by Gov. Ballard.

The steamship Fairfield, of Camden, and Amboy Transportation Company, sunk last evening by colliding with the Fulton Ferry boat, Armenia; no lives lost, although the crew of the Fairfield had a narrow escape. Loss $16,000; no insurance.

Recent reports of a large number of distilleries had had the effect of closing nearly every establishment in the city.

Wm. A. Sanborn, of Sterling, Illinois, has sued Silas E. Herring & Co., to recover the sum of $20,405 stolen by burglars from a safe warranted by defendants to be burglar proof.

From the Far West.

ST. LOUIS, Dec 14.—A special from Leavenworth says: Mr. Elmore Sutton, of that place, was shot by a highwayman about a mile from Leavenworth. Mr. Elmore's recovery is doubtful.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 14.—The trial of Scott, Cutler & Co., is proceeding. The developments thus far go to prove their crime. More bones have been found in the ruins, leaving no doubt that both of the young men Quesnel and Ricketts perished in the flames.

The Colorado Legislature convened on the 4th inst., at Golden City. Mr. Elbertha was elected speaker of the House, and C. J. McDevitt chief clerk.

Twenty prisoners escaped from the prison at St. Joseph to-day.

Navigation Suspended.

BANGOR, Me., Dec. 14.—The Penobscot river, at this city, was closed while last night, and navigation suspended for the season.

Bill to Establish Civil Government in North Carolina.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—A bill to establish civil government in North Carolina, and enable it to resume its former relations as one of the constituted States of the American Republic, was introduced into the House to-day. After a long preamble, the first section provides for the holding of a convention at Raleigh, on the 20th of May, 1867, 120 loyal citizens as delegates, to frame a constitution, to be submitted to Congress for approval or modification or rejection.

The second section provides that all male citizens of twenty-one years of age, without distinction of race or color, who can read or write, or who pay $100, shall vote, provided that no one heretofore entitled to vote shall be disqualified from voting in said election.

The third section provides that the qualifications for delegates to the convention shall be the same as required for the members of the House of Commons, and that the oath to be administered shall be as follows: That on the 4th of March, 1864, and all times thereafter, I would willingly have complied with the requirements of the proclamation of the United States, issued on the 8th of December, 1863, had a safe opportunity for so doing been afforded me; that I was opposed to a continuance of the rebellion and the establishment of the so-called Confederate government, and voluntarily given no aid or encouragement thereto, but earnestly desired the success of the Union, and that I will henceforth faithfully support the government of the United States, etc.

Section four provides that the Judge administering the oath, if he suspects any falsehood, may require other evidence. False swearing is declared perjury.

Section five provides for the opening of the polls by the United States Marshal, who shall appoint the judges of election.

Section six provides compensation for the Marshal and those he may appoint.

Section seven declares the present State government of North Carolina void, and the functions of all the present State officers at an end.

Section eight gives the President power to use the military and naval forces to execute the law.

Congressional Prayer Meeting, etc.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—About thirty Senators and Representatives met at the Capitol last night and organized a Congressional prayer meeting, with Senator Foster for President, and Representative Dodge as Secretary. Remarks were made by Senators Wilson, Wiley, Foster and Henderson, and Representatives Patterson, Dodge, Maynard and Grinnell. The meetings are to be held once a week, and without regard to denominational distinction.

The war is slightly felt now here this morning.

A memorial from the clerks in the Executive Department, asking for an increase of salary, was presented in the House to-day.

The House Military Committee has under consideration the bounty bill reported last session, giving to every soldier one hundred dollars a year for his term of service, deducting local bounty. The law which was passed, it will be remembered, gave one hundred dollars to soldiers who had served over two years, and fifty dollars to those who had served under that time.

From Canada.

MONTREAL, Dec. 14.—It is stated that Sir J. Nichol, Commander-in-Chief of the forces, recently prepared a report at the request of the imperial authorities, which shows the impracticability of fortifying this city without heavy cost.

The wife of Jeff. Davis is understood to have returned, and that she will soon visit her husband at Fort Warren.

The Minerva states that Surratt was discharged from the Bank Du People for eccentricity. He afterwards absconded from the Bureau of Public Education, with several hundred pounds.

Action of City Council.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 14.—The City Council passed a resolution to-day by a vote 21 to 10, directing the city solicitor to order the Ohio and Mississippi railroad to vacate Front street before the first of June. This virtually destroys the entrance of that road to the city, and forces it to seek another channel.

Drowned.

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 14.—Albert H. Inman, a recent graduate of Yale College, and Miss Ely, a young lady, were drowned at Passaquo last evening while skating.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

Masonic Notice.

ATTENTION, MEMBERS OF CUMBERLAND Lodge, No. 43, A. F. and A. M.—Stated meeting this EVENING, December 15, 1866, at 6½ o'clock. The election of officers will take place. By order of the W. M.

JOSEPH S. CARELS, Sec'y.

Insolvent Notice.

ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGINST the estate of Hamilton Mettill, deceased, are hereby notified to file them with the Clerk of the Chancery Court of Benton county, duly authenticated, on or before the first day of April next, for pro rata distribution, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery—the suggestion of the insolvency of said estate having been made to said Clerk. November 27, 1866.

J. S. MATTHEWS, Adm'r.

For Sale at a Bargain,

A COMPLETE SET OF MAHOGANY MARble top over-by-fine and also new Chamber Furniture. Apply to

W. W. TOTTEN,
21 and 23 South College st.

WE OFFER FOR SALE AT A LOW PRICE the following Buildings:

The PURVEYOR'S OFFICES, on Market street, 100x22 and 100x16.

The old GOVERNMENT BAKERY, on Summer street, 50x22.

These buildings have Water and Gas Pipes Distributed.

Also, the BARRACKS, No. 2 and 6, on Summer street, 100x25; and the

WAREHOUSE, corner Union and Vine sts., 22x100.

Apply to STARTSMAN & WRIGHT,
Cedar street, below N. W. Depot.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Sales Young. Small Profits.

A GOOD ASSORTMENT OF GOLD AND Silver Watches, Jewelry, Clocks, etc., at reasonable prices. Your patronage is respectfully solicited. REPAIRING done well and satisfaction guaranteed.

E. WIGGERS,
No. 239½ North Cherry St.

BEECH, MANLOVE & CO.

DEALERS IN

CARPETS, RUGS,

MATTINGS, FLOOR OIL CLOTHS,

Damask and Lace Curtain Goods,

OIL SHADES and SHADE LINENS, Etc.

No. 53 College Street.

NASHVILLE, TENN.

AT AUCTION.

ON TUESDAY, THE 18TH DECEMBER, we will sell at auction, on the premises, the property known as the

GERMAN METHODIST CHURCH,

with a lot fronting fifty feet feet and running back to an alley. Situated on the east side of North College street, about one hundred yards north of the Louisville Railroad Depot. Sale at 11 o'clock.

Terms—One fourth cash, balance in six, twelve and eighteen months.

ANDERSON, JOHNSON & SMITH, Agents.

Desirable Residence.

FOR SALE OR RENT, THE ELEGANT residence of the late Dr. John M. Watson—a large frame house, out-buildings, etc., with 11 18-100 acres, divided to suit purchaser. Will be sold at a bargain for the next ten days, if not sold by the 25th instant, will be rented for a good tenant for 1867. The most valuable property in and outside the corporation, fronting 1000 feet on McLemore street.

J. L. & R. W. BROWN, Agents,
Union street.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

CHANCERY SALES

FOR

January 5, 1867.

Wm. Lipscomb vs. S. M. Jones and others.

IN PURSUANCE OF ORDER OF THE Chancery Court at Nashville in above named cause, I will sell, at the Court House at Nashville, on

Saturday, January 5, 1867,

Fifteen of Land in the Second District of Davidson county, containing 35½ acres, known as "