

SAINT MARY'S GAZETTE

LEONARD TOWN, MD. THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 10, 1863

Qualification of Officers. The newly elected clerk of the Circuit Court John A. Campbell, Esq., having qualified before His Honor Judge Breat...

James T. M. Raley, Register of Wills, (re-elected); Dr. A. Jack Spalding, Chief Judge of the Orphans' Court, (re-elected); J. P. Yates, Judge of the Orphans' Court, (re-elected); W. Alex. Kirk, Judge of the Orphans' Court, (re-elected); Lewis H. Leigh, Jno. C. Herbert, E. F. Floyd, James R. Hopewell and James M. Heard, County Commissioners; Philip H. Dorsey, Sheriff; also several Justices of the Peace and Constables.

The News. The first session of the Thirty-Eighth Congress commenced in Washington yesterday. The Senate was called to order at noon by the Vice President. The credentials of several newly-elected Senators were presented. Mr. Davis contended that the Senators from West Virginia should not be allowed their seats. He contended that constitutionally and legally there was no such State as West Virginia, and therefore there could be no Senators from such a State. He believed the old State to be intact, and that the whole matter in reference to West Virginia was a flagrant violation of the Constitution. By a vote of 36 yeas to 5 nays the Senators—Messrs. Wiley and Van Winkle—were admitted to their seats. Mr. Lane, of Indiana, gave notice of the introduction of bills to repeal the three hundred dollar commutation feature of the Enrollment act, and to increase the pay of non-commissioned officers and privates in the army fifty per cent. After some further unimportant business the Senate adjourned.

The House of Representatives was called to order by Mr. Schuyler, the Clerk of the last House. He then read the roll of members from all the States except Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Missouri and Kansas, stating that he had only placed on the roll the names of those whose certificates bore internal evidence of election in accordance with the law of March last. The law was then read; it expressly declares that the Clerk shall "make a roll of the Representatives elected and place thereon the names of all persons, and of such persons only, whose credentials show that they were regularly elected in accordance with the laws of their States respectively or the laws of the United States." After some little debate the various names omitted from the roll were directed to be placed thereon by simple resolutions, although strenuous opposition was made by the opposition members. After the roll had been administered to the members, a ballot was had for Speaker, resulting in the choice of Hon. Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana, who, on assuming the chair, made a vigorous speech, declaring himself in favor of crushing out the rebellion by all the means within the power of the Government. After some unimportant business, the House adjourned.

From the Army of the Cumberland there appears to be nothing definite. A Chattanooga dispatch, dated 4th instant, states that the expedition to relieve General Burnside, under General Sherman, is supposed to have reached Knoxville. The Richmond papers publish a dispatch from General Bragg to General Cooper, dated Dalton, December 2, which states that the Federals had fallen back across the Chattanooga, destroying everything on their route, including the railroad track and bridges. He states that the Federal loss was heavy in their attack on the Confederate rear guard, under General Cleburn. Another dispatch, dated Bristol, 4th instant, states that the siege of Knoxville was progressing, and the cannonading represented as being very heavy. General Ransom is reported to have captured a large ammunition train en route to Knoxville. Another dispatch from Dalton, of the 4th, says that the latest accounts represent that Longstreet, with a part of his command, made an unsuccessful attack on Knoxville; his loss was very small. He then raised the siege, marching towards Abingdon. Va. General Bushrod Johnson had succeeded in effecting a junction with Longstreet without the loss of his supply train, as was previously reported. The loss of the Federal army at the fight at Ringgold is set down at 1,500 killed and wounded, 800 prisoners and 4 flags.

The Washington Star of yesterday afternoon—third and fourth editions—has telegrams from Tunwell, Tennessee, dated 4th and 7th instant, which states that a Confederate column were passing all the night of Saturday last from Knoxville towards Blair's Cross Roads. The men were heard to say they were going toward Virginia, that the Federals had them surrounded, and that they were going to fight their way out. The sum and substance of the entire dispatch is that General Longstreet is in full retreat towards Virginia. The Richmond papers have intelligence from Charleston to the 4th instant, but there is no change in the aspect of affairs there. There had been no shells thrown into the city since the 30th ultimo. On the night of the 3d General Beauregard and Colonel Rhet visited Saunter, when the band mounted the parapet and played "Dixie" and other tunes for about one hour. The Federal forces are reported to have ceased firing while the music was going on.

There had been no shells thrown into the city since the 30th ultimo. On the night of the 3d General Beauregard and Colonel Rhet visited Saunter, when the band mounted the parapet and played "Dixie" and other tunes for about one hour. The Federal forces are reported to have ceased firing while the music was going on.

The correspondent of the New York Tribune, writing from the Army of the Potomac, states that General Meagher, who was with the army as a visitor to his old brigade, was captured, in citizen's clothes, near Mine Run, during the recent engagements, and is now in the hands of the Confederates. The same writer states that at half-past 6 o'clock on Friday night a gang of guerrillas attacked a train on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, two miles east of Heaton Station. The engine is reported to have been struck by bullets in fifteen or twenty places.

The rumor which has been afloat for some days that General Bragg died on the 27th ult. of wounds received at Ringgold, turns out to be unfounded. The Richmond Enquirer of Friday last contains a dispatch from Dalton, Georgia, on the 21 instant, stating that on the previous day General Bragg was serenaded and made an appropriate speech, the occasion being the retirement of General Bragg from the command of the army.

GENERAL D. H. HILL AND THE BATTLE OF CHICKAMAUGA.

From the Richmond Enquirer, Nov. 27. We publish this morning a card from Lieutenant General D. H. Hill, fully and completely exonerating him from any responsibility for the failure of General Bragg to reap the fruits of the victory at Chickamauga. Indeed, when we consider the manifest injustice done General Hill, we are surprised, as well as pleased, at the temperate character of his vindication. General Hill has made the reputation of a hard fighter, of which no injustice can deprive him, and we, in common with our countrymen, earnestly hope he may be speedily reinstated in the Army of the Army of the Tennessee, under Longstreet, or Johnson, or Lee, and that General Bragg may be permitted to rest for a season.

GENERAL HILL'S CARD. As several erroneous statements have been made in regard to my being relieved from duty with the Army of Tennessee, it cannot be improper to give the facts in the case. When the order relieving me was received I called upon General Bragg and asked the cause of it. He said that he had no cause of complaint against me up to the close of the battle on the 20th of September; that no imputations had been, or could be, made against my military character, and that he would promptly retract any one making such in his presence. I then asked what could be the reason for his action. He alleged as the cause an expression of opinion on my part. I inquired why I alone was held responsible for this utterance, when the other three corps commanders (Longstreet, Bushrod and Cheatham) had concurred in it. To this no satisfactory answer was given.

The insinuation made by some of the army correspondents, of my being tardy in attacking on the morning of the 20th September, is unjust. The first intimation that I received that we were to be the assailants was an order to advance from the wing commander (General Polk), received at twenty-five minutes past seven A. M. And the first I heard of the contemplated attack at daylight was from General Bragg himself some half an hour later. The four essential preparations for battle had not been made at eight A. M., and, in fact, could not be made, without the presence of the Commander-in-Chief, who then appeared on the field.

Lieutenant General Longstreet has since told me that he was so far from being ready at daylight that he was not even ready when I began the attack. My impression is that my corps was engaged more than an hour before a trigger was drawn by any other troops. To the fierceness of the assault by this heroic corps the Yankees ascribe their mauling on our right. If I am not greatly mistaken, we had gained the Chattanooga road, and nearly reached the Kelly house before the left wing came into action. The Yankees concentrated their forces rapidly to regain the key point of their position. Generals Helm and Delcher were killed, and General Adams was wounded and captured by the overwhelming masses thrown against my single corps. General Adams told me that the Yankees, in conversation with him, ascribed the loss of the battle to their withdrawing too many troops from their right to meet this morning attack of my heroic men on their left. It would seem that the delay in attacking on our left led them to believe that our forces were massed on our right. I heard no firing on our left until after the first troops of Walker and Liddell had come to our support.

The charge of tardiness being disposed of, it may be well to quote to the self-constituted critics the following extract from the letter of the Adjutant General in refusal of my application for a court of inquiry: "Indeed, with an officer of your past services and approved gallantry, military delinquency is a presumption not to be indulged in by all charge or complaint sanctioned by the Department." D. H. HILL, Lieutenant General.

EXILE OF EX-GOVERNOR PRATT.

It was stated several days ago that Gov. Pratt, and other prominent citizens of Anne Arundel County, had been expelled by military authority and conveyed to Baltimore. Upon reaching that city, he had an interview with General Sherman, who stated that they were arrested because they declined taking the oath of allegiance on the day of the late election, in the judges at the polls, and, refusing to do, went away in a body. They were permitted to stop at Barnum's Hotel, with the opportunity of deciding whether or not they were willing to take the oath. We learn from the Sun, of Tuesday, that the gentlemen created all finally consented to take the oath of allegiance with the exception of the Hon. THOMAS G. PRATT and Col. JESSE H. NICHOLS, who, having declined to take the oath, were on Monday evening last placed on board a steamer for Fortress Monroe, whence they are to be sent to Richmond. They are forbidden to return during the war under penalty of being tried as spies.

Ex-Governor Pratt was elected Governor of Maryland in 1844 by the Whig party, and was subsequently chosen United States Senator by the Maryland legislature. He served eight years on full term and part of an unexpired term. He was several times a member of the State Senate, and has for thirty years past occupied a prominent political position in his State. Col. Nichols was for many years Clerk of the Maryland State Senate, and subsequently a Clerk in the United States Senate. He was well known throughout the State.—National Intelligence.

The above proceeding has produced a very great degree of sympathy and anxiety in this community, in which Governor Pratt is long respected, and is so well known and highly respected. The sudden arrest and banishment of an eminent citizen, for no offence recognized by the law—whose course during the present civil disturbances has been singularly quiet and unobtrusive—is a circumstance well calculated to excite attention, and is likely, we hope, to bring this whole subject of military exile to a proper and definite settlement.

At the recent election, in obedience to the orders of Gen. SCHENCK, an oath was tendered to voters by his officers, as a test or condition of suffrage. It is confessed that neither the Federal nor State laws authorized such a proceeding; and the Governor of the State, indeed, had issued his proclamation, indignantly repudiating the validity of such orders, and calling upon the civil authorities to protect the voters against their imposition. In the face of this Executive protest, Gov. Pratt offered to vote—and the oath being required of him, refused to take it. His refusal was based, as we learn, simply upon the want of authority, on the part of the military, to require it of him. For this refusal he was arrested for the new crime of "suspected disloyalty," and, upon his continued refusal, he is sent across our line.

The eminent position of the citizen who is thus treated will lead a prominence to the transaction which, it is to be hoped, will ensure its full ventilation. There is no man in Maryland to whom, for his all-important public services, the State feels herself more indebted than to Gov. PRATT. If, without crime—without legal process—without violation of law—may, for a mere refusal to submit to an illegal proceeding, a citizen of such position and influence may be so treated, it is surely high time that it should be settled whether there is any law to justify such proceeding. We earnestly wish that this case may be made at once the basis of a strong appeal, by the people of Maryland, to the Federal and State authorities. It seems to us in view of his proclamation, that Governor BRAGG ought to make upon the President the strongest and most energetic demands for justice; and it is almost inconceivable that the President could refuse to render, at once, the most ample redress. At any rate, if other means shall fail, we suggest the propriety of a general memorial to Congress on the subject, in order that it may receive a thorough sifting before the representatives of the people. We cannot but believe that such discussion would tend to a beneficial result.—Prince Georges.

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC—ITS MYSTERIOUS MANGUAGES.

The country will be astonished and confounded on reading the dispatch which announces that the Army of the Potomac has again fallen back—fallen back without having tested its own power or that of its Rebel adversary—and was probably last night encamped in its old quarters at Brandy Station, on the line of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. It was on Thursday last that the great host, with high hopes, steady step, and ten days' rations, crossed the Rapidan to measure swords with the enemy, and before one-half of the ten days had passed away it has wheeled round, retraced its steps, and is now proceeding on encamping in the wretched desert that fronts Washington, where it can fight to its heart's content the horns of Mowbray—having, in the meantime, fought no battle, achieved no victory, and observed no respectable purpose. On Monday General Meade captured two corps, or the whole, of Lee's army, by the Philadelphia telegraph, and on Tuesday Lee captured the whole of General Meade's army by a telegram from Philadelphia; and this, with the heavy cannonading that the public heard for several days over the wires, and the gallant skirmishing of Friday and Saturday, constitutes the sum total of visible results from the late campaign. This morning's dispatch states that General Meade's friends claim that the object of the advance was not to give battle to Lee, but to prevent his sending reinforcements to Longstreet in Tennessee; and that the movement has consequently been a success. But we fear that those who argue in this manner do not study the newspapers with sufficient scrutiny; for General Burnside crossed words with Longstreet as far back as the 14th, or two weeks before General Meade began his

advance, and during the whole of that fortnight he was in imminent peril with the rebel alt. the day of Meade's advance, at which date telegrams were received from General Burnside announcing that he was fully able to resist the enemy on the Potomac, and as Burnside was under Meade's command, and Meade was then just putting the finishing touches upon his great victory, we may be sure that energetic officers would not delay relief for a moment. Reinforcements were also hastening to Burnside's help, via Cumberland Gap. Besides all these all-sufficient aids, we cannot believe that the Army of the Potomac ventured upon such a large and comprehensive campaign merely on the supposition that thus it might prevent Lee from sending some regiments to aid Longstreet in executing himself from a position from which he had fair to extricate himself without such aid.

The October campaign and the November campaign of the Army of the Potomac, are certainly the most remarkable episodes in the remarkable history of that noble and stout-hearted army. In October Lee followed our army from the Rapidan nearly up to the defenses of Washington; and immediately afterwards General Meade pursued the Rebel army from Bull Run back to the Rapidan—all with a battle of any magnitude—all without result. At the close of November General Meade's army again started out to find and fight Lee, as was universally supposed; but after a week's marching and countermarching, it is again putting space between it and the army it set out to overtake. For what are all these movements?

THE EXEMPTION QUESTION.

A number of persons who have been drafted have manifested a good deal of concern as to whether they will be permitted, after having claimed and failed to obtain exemption on the ground of physical disability or other cause, to pay the commutation money or be compelled to go into the service. It is made the duty of the surgeon to examine every conscript who may report for duty, but an order from the provost marshal general grants to every one the right to commute after having failed to procure exemption by other means. The following is a copy of the order filed with the conscripting provost marshals on that subject:

"A person drafted into the military service of the United States, under the provisions of the act of March 3, 1863, chapter 75, for enrolling and calling out the national forces, and for other purposes, claiming exemption from draft by reason of any disability as provided in said act, has the right to have the question of his disability submitted to and passed upon by the board of enrollment, whose decision thereon is final. If the board shall have decided that the claimant is liable to service; he has the right after such decision against him to pay his commutation money, or furnish a substitute, within such extended time as may be fixed by order of the board of enrollment for his appearance for duty." It will thus be seen that at any time before the party is placed in actual service he may escape, after all other efforts have failed, by paying the three hundred dollars

PRAYERS FOR PEACE.—The Richmond Whig says:

We learn that Bishop McGill on Sunday last announced that from the 1st of December next to the 20th, was set apart by the bishops of the Catholic Church of the Confederacy for prayers in behalf of peace. He took occasion, we learn, to remind his congregation that the prayers in the contemplation of the church did not refer to peace as a result of subjugation, but such a peace as a brave people engaged in a just cause could accept. "If," said he, "our cause was not just, we could not appeal to the throne of mercy to sustain it."

Bishop McGill is a Kentuckian by birth, a college mate of Messrs. Singleton, of Mississippi; Dupre, of Louisiana, and Hauley, of Arkansas, members of the House of Representatives; and a devoted Southerner in every instinct. The very admission which he gave against the offering of prayers in contemplation of peace by his congregation, implies an interest in our cause which is fully in keeping with the natural proclivities of a true Kentuckian.

FALSE NAMES UNDER THE DRAFT OF NO AVAIL.—The Board of Enrollment have decided among themselves, that where a party has been enrolled as the occupant of a certain residence, his identity will be determined by his residence, and not exclusively by his name. In other words, that a mistake in the name of the party enrolled, whether intentionally or willfully made, will not be accepted as a valid excuse for a failure to report for duty, if the party so misnamed shall be drafted at his proper residence.

A case in point occurred in the Eighth Ward, a few days since, where a woman having given the name of an acquaintance instead of her own husband, the Board held the latter as the drafted man. The wife will be subjected to trial for giving a wrong name to the enrolling officer.

REWARD FOR THE CAPTURE OF JOHN MORGAN.—The reward for the capture of John Morgan has been increased to \$5,000. General Cox has been relieved of duty at Cincinnati, and ordered to Knoxville.

SPECIAL DISPATCHES TO THE NEW YORK POST.

GENERAL MEADE TO BE REMOVED.—A December Campaign Talker of—it is rumored that General Meade will be removed from the command of the Army of the Potomac, and that a new commander will lead the army in a December campaign. The army is in good spirits.

MARRIED.

On Tuesday last, by the Rev. James Hoskins, Levin J. Southwick, of Washington, D. C., to Miss Lydia E. Carter, of this county.

LATE SHERIFF'S SALE OF VALUABLE PERSONAL PROPERTY.

BY virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas, issued out of the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, at the suit of Alexander Penn, Sheriff, vs. George and Charles, and to me directed, I have seized and taken in execution all the right, title, interest, claim and demand, at law and in equity, of the said Quiry Greenwell in and to the following property, to wit:

- One negro woman, named ELIZA, aged about 20 years. One negro woman named MARGARET, aged about 10 years. One negro boy, named CLEM, aged about 6 years. One negro girl, named LOUISA, aged about 8 years. One negro boy, named ABRAHAM, aged about 1 year. Two Horses; Two Yoke of Oxen, Two Cows, and four head of Young Cattle. And, I hereby give notice, that on MONDAY, the 14th day of January next,

on the premises of the said Quiry Greenwell, between the hours of 12 o'clock M., and 4 o'clock, P. M., I will expose to public auction the above described property, as seized and taken in execution, to the highest bidder for cash. Also to satisfy officers' costs on same. J. THOMPSON YATES, Late Sheriff.

LATE SHERIFF'S SALE OF LIKELY YOUNG NEGROES.

BY virtue of two writs of Venditioni Exponas, issued out of the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, one at the suit of Frederick Smith, Trustee for the sale of "Smithwood," vs. Benjamin W. Harris, against the goods and chattels, lands and tenements of William M. Taylor, Robert Ford, George K. Campbell and Wm. Smith; and the other at the suit of Frederick Smith, Trustee for the sale of "Smithwood," vs. Benjamin W. Harris, against the goods and chattels, lands and tenements of William M. Taylor, Robert Ford, George K. Campbell and Wm. Smith; and to me directed, I have seized and taken in execution all the right, title, interest, claim and demand, at law and in equity, of the said William M. Taylor, Robert Ford, George K. Campbell and Wm. Smith in and to the following property, to wit:

- One negro man, named GEORGE; One negro man, named PETER; One negro man, named SANDY; And, I hereby give notice, that on THURSDAY, the 7th day of January next,

on the late premises of the said George E. Campbell, between the hours of 12 o'clock M., and 4 o'clock, P. M., I will expose to public auction the above described property, as seized and taken in execution, to the highest bidder for cash. Also to satisfy officers' costs on same. J. THOMPSON YATES, Late Sheriff.

SHERIFF'S SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

BY virtue of one writ of Fieri Facias, issued out of the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, at the suit of Edmund S. T. Madson, against the goods and chattels, lands and tenements of John E. Holmes, and to me directed, I have seized and taken in execution all the right, title, interest, claim and demand, at law and in equity, of the said John E. Holmes, in and to the following property, to wit:

- One SORREL MARE; One BULKY and GEAR; Two PLOUGH; One COLLAR and HAKES. And, I hereby give notice, that on TUESDAY, the 5th day of January next,

at the Court House door, in Leonard Town, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M., and 4 o'clock, P. M., I will expose to public auction the above described property, as seized and taken in execution, to the highest bidder for cash. Also to satisfy officers' costs on same. THOMAS L. DAVIS, Sheriff.

WANTED.

BEEF HIDES, to which the highest cash price will be given. N. COXRAD, Agent. Dec. 10th, 1863—4f.

BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTORY!

I have just received from the best of the friends and the public, that he has opened a new Boot and Shoe Manufactory in Leonard Town. Having secured the most desirable length of time at his trade, he is enabled to supply the public with the best quality of boots, shoes, and slippers, at the lowest possible price, and of the most durable material. He is enabled to supply the public with the best quality of boots, shoes, and slippers, at the lowest possible price, and of the most durable material. He is enabled to supply the public with the best quality of boots, shoes, and slippers, at the lowest possible price, and of the most durable material.

PUBLIC SALE.

THERE will be sold, at my late residence in Leonard Town, on TUESDAY, the 22nd day of December inst, a lot of Household and Kitchen Furniture, and also a fine collection of valuable Deer Hives. Terms:—All sums of Ten Dollars and under, cash. For all sums over Ten Dollars, a credit of three months will be given, upon good security. WM. I. YATES, December 10th, 1863—4f.

NOTICE TO CONSTABLES.

THE newly elected Constables are hereby notified to file their oaths with the Clerk to Commissioners on or before TUESDAY, the 22nd day of December, inst., as the Commissioners will meet on that day for the purpose of approving said bonds. By order, ROBT. C. COMBS, Clerk to the Commissioners, December 10th, 1863—4f.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

NOTICE is hereby given that the subscribers have obtained from the Orphans' Court of St. Mary's County, in Maryland, letters of administration on the personal estate of Robert Penn, late of said county, deceased. All persons having claims against the said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same with the proper vouchers thereof, to the subscribers on or before the 15th day of June 1864, otherwise they may be excluded by law from all benefit of the said estate. Given under our hands this 10th day of Dec, 1863. C. H. EGAN, WM. C. ABELL, Administrators. Dec. 10th, 1863—4f.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE OF VALUABLE PERSONAL PROPERTY.

BY virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court for Saint Mary's County, the undersigned, administrator of Jos. David, late of said county, deceased, will sell at public sale, on the late premises of said Joseph David, on

THURSDAY, the 24th day of December, instant,

(if fair, or not the next fair day thereafter—Christians day and Sunday's excepted) all the personal estate of the said Joseph David, to wit:

Horses; Oxen; Cows; Hogs; Sheep; crop of Corn; Potatoes; Farming Utensils; Household and Kitchen Furniture; and many other articles too tedious to enumerate. Terms of Sale:—All of sums of ten dollars and under, cash; on all sums above that amount a credit of six months will be given, the purchasers to give bond, with security approved by the undersigned, and bearing interest from the day of sale. R. FORD, Administrator. Dec. 31, 1863—4f.

RATIFICATION NOTICE.

B. G. Harris, In the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, sitting as a Court of Equity, N. C. 1853. Administrators of George Hayden, & others.

ORDERED by the Court, that the Trustee's report filed in this case, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shown, on or before the third Monday in June next. Provided a copy of this order be published in the St. Mary's Gazette, once a week for three weeks, prior to the said third Monday of June next. The Trustee's report states the amount of sale to be \$4,000. GEORGE BRENT, True Copy—Test. JAMES T. BLAKISTONE, Clk. Dec. 3d, 1863—3w.

NOTICE.

THE Commissioners for the various officers elected at the late election have been received, and are now ready for delivery. JAMES T. BLAKISTONE, Clerk. Dec. 3d, 1863—4f.

ROBERTSON & BRISCOE

SUCCESSORS TO E. H. MILES, AT HIS OLD STAND, 143 W. PRATT STREET, BALTIMORE.

RESPECTFULLY offer their services as agents, for the sale of TOBACCO, GRAIN, and all kinds of PRODUCE, pledging their business ability to render satisfaction to all who may patronize them. Liberal advances made on consignments. Dec. 3d, 1863—4f.