



State Convention.

The Free men of the State of Vermont, without respect to party, are invited to meet in Mass Convention at Burlington, on Wednesday, the 12th day of March, A. D. 1862, for the purpose of nominating a delegate to Congress, to constitute the Council of Congress, provided by the Constitution to be elected by the free men of the Commonwealth on the last Wednesday of March.

The Special Message.

The special Message sent to Congress last Thursday by President Lincoln, may well be considered one of the most important incidents of the present administration. It discloses the policy of the administration in regard to Slavery, a subject paramount to all others of a public and political nature, and whose status upon this continent, and indeed throughout the world, is to be determined by the events of the few succeeding months.

The policy of the President as intimated by this message is hostility to the further extension of slavery, and a desire to see it gradually extinguished in those parts of the Union where it now exists. This policy recognizes that great principle so fully endorsed by the early fathers of the Republic, but which has of late sunk further and further from the notice of those who have ruled the nation,—that slavery is sectional, and exists only by local law, while Freedom is national, and the natural condition of all people and countries. So far as the government is able to do so constitutionally, it is its duty to oppose slavery, while that assistance which has in previous administrations been extended to slavery, must be considered as the gravest of national crimes, and one never again to be repeated. If the course of action recommended by the President shall be adopted, as we believe it will, he will be justly entitled to the thanks of a grateful people at home, and of lovers of justice and freedom throughout the world for having inaugurated a policy which will restore the American Republic to its original position as a government founded upon free institutions, "the home of the oppressed and the land of the free."

But while the President thus evinces his hostility to slavery, he does not recommend immediate emancipation of the slaves. This, as is universally conceded, is a matter beyond the province of the national government. If the slaves are to be emancipated at all, it is to be done by the States themselves, who alone have the control of this subject. As to the question whether those States which now tolerate slavery would act more wisely to the adoption of immediate or gradual emancipation, the President says, "In my judgment, gradual and not sudden emancipation is better for all."

We are happy to say that the sentiments which have hitherto been expressed in our columns in regard to this subject coincide with the view of the President. There is, in our view, an intense hostility existing between the white and black races, which renders it wise that the slaves should be gradually emancipated and gradually colonized in a separate country suited to their nature.

This, in our view, will be the ultimate solution of the vexed question, what will you do with the slaves when freed? If we reflect upon the general aversion to the North to the blacks, and consider the condition in life of the Northern blacks, we cannot fail to realize this hostility of race to which we have alluded. The blacks are about to be expelled from Illinois. This feeling is even more intense at the South; and we have every reason to believe that the sudden emancipation of the slaves and their consequent elevation to an equality with the "poor whites" would seriously affect the loyalty of the latter class, who constitute a large majority of the Southern people, and to whom we are to look for the return of law and order in the rebellious States.

The gradual emancipation of the slaves and its encouragement on the part of the government by the proffer of "pecuniary aid" is a doctrine which we most heartily endorse, and which we believe will meet the almost unanimous support of the people and of Congress.

STRICTLY IN JAMAICA.—Elias Howard of Jamaica, aged about 80 years, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head with a pistol. He had been quite unwell for a few days past.—Phos.

Gen. Fremont Again.

Gen. Fremont has addressed a lengthy document to the Congressional Committee on the conduct of the war, in which he gives a detailed account of his Western campaign.

He went West the latter part of July, at which date no place of operations had been resolved upon by the administration, and everything was left to his control. He found the troops in his division mostly without arms, and everything in hopeless disorder, while the enemy were ravaging Missouri and threatening to advance upon St. Louis. Gen. Fremont's attempts to procure arms from headquarters were several times thwarted by the diversion of the arms promised him to the army of the Potomac. His three months troops were also refusing to re-enlist because they had not been paid. In this emergency he sent to New York to purchase such arms as could be had, to be forwarded by express, and he compelled the sub-treasurer at St. Louis to pay over to him \$100,000 for the payment of his troops. Both acts he defends by the necessities of his position, and states that he communicated his action to the President, who expressed no disapprobation. In regard to the disaster at Springfield, in which Gen. Lyon lost his life, Gen. Fremont brings evidence to show that it was not at that time in his power to reinforce Gen. Lyon. He also defends the erection of fortifications around St. Louis, as essential to its defense by a small force while he should conduct the campaign southward, and the works, he says, were thoroughly built at a cost of less than \$300,000. Some other less important charges against his management are noticed by Gen. Fremont, and he closes with the following statement of the condition and prospects of his department at the time of his removal:—

"At the end of October, when I had succeeded in organizing and equipping an army, and was beginning to handle it in the field, we were everywhere and uniformly along the whole extent of our lines successful against the enemy. At Springfield one of the most brilliant actions, and at Fredericktown one of the most admirably conducted battles of the war had been fought. Isolated railroads had been connected with St. Louis, and were in full and continuous operation over their whole extent. Additional cars had been provided, and at twenty-four hours' notice 10,000 men could be moved upon them from any one point to the opposite side of the State. All our posts, so far as the railroad went, had been fortified and connected by telegraph, which were everywhere in full operation, and the daily mails were running to Springfield, from which place an officer, alone and in uniform, could ride through with safety to St. Louis. Quiet and comparative peace had been restored to the State, and the enemy were in full retreat before us to its southern boundary. A compact had been entered into with him, under which the authority of the State and federal courts was acknowledged; liberty of opinion and security of person were guaranteed to both sides; all guerrilla parties suppressed, and the war strictly confined to responsible officers and the armies in the field.

The State was, in reality, reclaimed, and in condition to leave the army free for the especial object of descending the Mississippi. The rebels already acknowledged the inability of resistance to the federal authority; the doubtful came to the side of power, and the loyal, who had borne the brunt of war—when to stand by the Union involved danger and losses—were everywhere encouraged to new efforts, and rewarded for their past aid. The fall rains were over, the fine weather of the Indian summer had come, the hay was gathered and corn hardening, and we were about to carry out the great object of our campaign under the most favorable auspices, with fewer hardships from exposure and impediments from transportation than at any other season. The spirit of the army was high. It was mainly composed of Western men, whose interests as well as whose patriotism was involved in the opening of the Mississippi river, for the preparation to which they had contributed every possible effort, and we had every reason to believe that the campaign would open with a signal victory in the defeat or dispersion of the rebel army, with a move on Memphis as the immediate result. These were the circumstances under which, without reason assigned, I was relieved of my command."

Unionism at the South.

One of the most encouraging features of the present rebellion is the presence in the Southern States of an affection for the Union and the Government which the utmost efforts of the rebels are unable to extinguish. The recent victories at Roanoke and in Tennessee brought out this feeling to such an alarming extent that Richmond has been placed under martial law, and John M. Bott, one of the most influential citizens of Virginia, and many other prominent individuals have been imprisoned for evincing sympathy with the Government.

It is these men who are, together with the aid of the Union armies, to restore our national supremacy in the rebellious districts.

The state of feeling in Tennessee is well described in the following thrilling

narrative from an editor of the Cincinnati Gazette, who accompanied the grand expedition up the Cumberland:

Every cabin door is open as we pass, and in every one a woman's fluttering handkerchief is seen. Everywhere women, children and negroes crowd to the banks to see steamboats once more plowing neglected stream and wave their welcome back to commerce and the flag; but for dozens of miles not a white man is to be seen. They have either been driven off by the rebels, or are of doubtful loyalty, and deem it prudent to keep out of the way. Eddyville, a pleasant little river town, perched on the bluff some forty miles up the stream, runs up the stars and stripes as we approach, and gray-haired men are seen at the landing, waving their hands and shouting and cheering till the tears run down their aged cheeks. And at Canton, long before we reached the place, a rugged, bearded, butternut-chested farmer is seen on the bank, shouting till one would think him crazy. "I've been ground down," he yells in an ecstasy of delight; "I've not dared to speak a word. I've been threatened with hanging, but I knew it would all come right; glory to God, it has come!" and more shouts and exultant hailing, while the boys cheer the fine fellow as if they were splitting their throats.

Three or four women are seen at a cabin door waving their handkerchiefs. A soldier carefully reconnoitres, and at last announces, "boys there's a gal with hoops on!" Three cheers for the gal with hoops in this country! And the "gal with hoops" gets three stunning cheers. At a forlorn looking little cabin on the other bank a woman appears, broomstick in hand, and for want of handkerchiefs, shakes her lousie-wife's weapon aloft. "God bless you," shouts an enthusiastic old major, who stands perched on the top of the pilot-house, "you and your children forever. You're one of the right sort. Three cheers for the woman with the broomstick. Hail Columbia!" And then the old major, unable to contain his feelings longer in mere words, goes off in a prolonged "Youp, youp, youp," to which the lads on deck give lusty response. At another of the larger houses, a group of ladies stand looking at the boat. "Hurrah for the Union!" yells our major from the roof of the pilot-house. No response from the ladies. "Hurrah for the stars and stripes!" yells the major again. Still no response. "Why don't you wave your handkerchiefs?" angrily roars the major, while the decks and gunwales explode with uncontrollable laughter. "Have you got no feelings? Seeseh! Seeseh! (pointing the finger, after the manner of little boys crying shame.) Seeseh! Seeseh! Oh you villains. Hurrah for the Union! Death to rebels! Hail Columbia!" And so it goes all the way.

A NEW PAPER.—The Franklin County Herald is the title of a new paper which has just come to us. It is published at Swanton by J. Keichum Averill. It is very neatly printed and skillfully edited. It proposes to be a *live* newspaper; is devoted to no party but goes heart and hand for the Union. We wish the Herald abundant success and suppose we shall have to resign to it the place which we have had the pleasure of occupying, viz: the youngest member of our State press.

Vote for County Commissioner.

	Holley.	Jenks.	Sprague.
Bearington,	19	90	9
Dorset,	91	82	18
Manchester,	125	144	5
Peru,	52	13	11
Powall—no meeting.			
Rupert,	76	51	0
Sunderland,	28	21	3
Winhall,	39	27	41
Woodford,	11	44	2
	531	352	80

We hear that Dr. Barker, of London-Lerry, has settled the suit of Bemis vs. Barker, reported by us last fall, he paying the demand, costs, etc., and also that he has settled with, and paid, Cyril Gould for keeping the Churchill girl. This leaves only the bastard case against him to be tried.—Argus.

THE 8TH REGIMENT left Brattleboro for New York on Thursday last. The 7th went yesterday, their destination is Ship Island where they are to be conveyed by transports or sail vessels.—They are fine regiments, containing the maximum number. The 8th has more than 1200 officers and men. Vermont has now more than 8000 men in the field.

THE rebel Congress has decided against the proposition to create a General-in-Chief. This is a triumph of the Davis over the Beauregard party.

PILLOW'S EXPLANATION.—Pillow explains the cause of the loss of Fort Donelson as follows: He held the extreme left, Floyd the centre, Buckner the right wing.

"On Saturday," says Pillow, "I drove the Lincoln army inch by inch, expecting Buckner's assistance, as I had ordered him to detach a portion of his force and march to the assistance of Floyd against the centre. But he refused to obey the order, giving as his reason that the enemy then landing from the boats would come up the hill over his breastworks and in his rear." From this moment, Saturday morning, Buckner seemed to give up all hope, and about noon, when the three Generals had a conference, he advocated a surrender. Pillow objected; Floyd soon agreed with Buckner. Then Pillow asked the other two to turn over the whole command to him and that he would fight it through.—Buckner would not consent, saying the lives of his men should not be sacrificed. Floyd said, "Gentlemen, do what you please; but the Fort must not be surrendered with me in it; if it should, I know I should be hung." So they finally agreed, after dinner, on Saturday, as follows: Floyd would, with his own private troops, make his escape up the river at Dover; while Buckner would remain and surrender on the best terms he could get. This was the pre-arranged plan which they carried out.

Local Intelligence.

Town Meetings.

MANCHESTER.—Moderator, R. Howard; Clerk, J. C. Roberts; Selectmen, I. B. Wilson, D. D. Eddy, H. S. Walker; Treasurer, J. C. Roberts; Constable and Collector, G. H. Smith; Listers, Roberts Ames, E. B. Lathrop, M. Hawley; Auditors, H. E. Miner, R. Howard, F. W. Hoyt; Fence Viewers, Peter Dudley, Rodolphus Lyman; Cephas Morgan; Town Grand Jurors, Richard Desin, A. J. Gray; Town Agent, H. K. Fowler; Trustees School Fund, E. B. Barton, W. P. Black, H. P. Way; Superintendent Schools, J. B. Hollister. The selectmen were authorized in their discretion to publish the town accounts in a pamphlet long enough before the next town meeting to give an opportunity for the inspection of said accounts. M. Clark and A. Baker were appointed a committee to settle a local dispute with J. S. Pettibone. Voted to raise a tax of twenty-three per cent. Vote for Commissioner, Hiram Holley, 125; George Jenks, 14; L. H. Sprague, 5.

SUNDERLAND.—Moderator, Jeremiah Webb; Town Clerk, Reuben Webb; Selectmen, G. B. Bacon, Samuel Pike, Maynard Knight; Overseers of the Poor, Selectmen; Constable, Isaac W. Marble; Listers, Edwin D. Matison, S. W. B. Temple, Timothy H. Holt; Auditors, William Perkins, John M. Gregory, Elton Hill; Fence Viewers, James Stone, James Williams, Solomon Bentley, 24; Grand Jurors, Peter C. Atwood, Jeremiah Webb; Sealer of Weights and Measures, Gilbert W. Bradley; Inspector of Leather, Abel R. Sullivan; Pound Keepers, G. B. Bacon, John W. Kelley; Agent, G. L. Bacon; Superintendent of Common Schools, Edward G. Bacon; Trustee, William Perkins. Town Tax, 25 cents on the dollar.—County Commissioner—George Jenks, 51; Hiram Holley, 28; L. H. Sprague, 3.

RUPERT.—Moderator, Thos. L. Sheldon; Town Clerk, Henry Sheldon; Selectmen, Seymour Harwood, Harmon Underhill, Thos. L. Sheldon; Superintendent, J. N. Wiseman; Listers, George Hopkins, Wm. Root, H. O. Moore; Town Agent, Wm. M. Sherman; Agents for the Surplus Fund, Seth Sheldon, Thos. L. Sheldon, Wm. C. Bailey; Treasurer, Seth Sheldon; Fence Viewers, Philip W. Youlen, Homer Farrer, Wm. Lincoln, Paul Master, Seymour Harwood; Poundkeeper, C. F. Sheldon; Grand Juror, Joseph Parker; Cell Jary, C. A. Sherman, Sol. Moore, T. J. Prescott, L. G. Hay, T. D. Smith, E. P. Sheldon, S. J. Farrer, Orson Brewster, A. J. Danforth, G. C. Leach, J. M. Harwood; Constable and Collector, J. L. McCall; Sealer of weights, E. B. Safford. County Commissioner—George Jenks, 51; Hiram Holley, 70; scattering, 5.

DORSET.—Moderator, Ira Cochran; Town Clerk, J. W. Bates; Selectmen and Overseers of Poor, George W. Farwell, J. W. Batchelder, Harvey Holley; Treasurer, J. W. Batchelder; 1st Constable, Ralph Smith; 2d Constable, Stephen Grant; Listers, J. George Vial, Edson L. Holley, Ralph Smith; Auditors, I. N. Sykes, A. B. Armstrong, Herman Moore; Grand Jurors, F. G. Harwood, A. B. Armstrong; Agent, I. N. Sykes; Superintendent of Schools, John E. Burdum. County Commissioner—Hiram Holley, 91; George Jenks, 82; L. H. Sprague, 18.

PERU.—Moderator, D. H. Marden; Town Clerk, O. P. Simonds; Selectmen, Ira K. Batchelder, Harvey Stone, S. D. Simonds; Treasurer, Joel Adams, Jr.; Overseer Poor, Mark Batchelder; Constable, James Lincoln; Listers, Ira K. Walker, Jonathan Hapgood, Albert Wait; Town Grand Juror, Mark Batchelder; Trustees Surplus Fund, Benj. Barnard, Goodell Walker, Ira Russell; Auditors, Joseph H. Simonds, Dexter Batchelder, D. H. Marden; Fence Viewers, Dexter Batchelder, A. T. Byard, Seth Walker; Sealer of weights and measures, J. H. Simonds; Inspector of Leather, O. P. Simonds; Pound keeper, Ira K. Batchelder; Town Agent, D. H. Marden; School Superintendent, D. H. Marden; Sexton, James Lincoln. Town voted a tax of 12 cents on the dollar to defray the expenses of the town. County Commissioner—Holley, 32; Jenks, 13; Sprague, 11.

WINNALL.—Moderator, A. P. Graham; Clerk and Treasurer, C. B. Williams; Selectmen, Cephas Williams, Seth Lyon, Z. K. Cone; Overseer Poor, Chauncey C. Wheeler; Constable, Billings Taylor; Listers, Geo. A. Cummings, Joshua Barnard, Vespasian Brown; Grand Juror, J. A. Emery; Superintendent of Schools, G. F. Shanks; Trustee on U. S. Deposit money, C. R. Williams; Agent, Francis Kidder. The town voted to raise 20 cents on the dollar on the grand list to pay town expenses. County Commissioner—L. H. Sprague, 41; Hiram Holley, 33; George Jenks, 27.

THE WEATHER.—The winter of 1861-2 will long be remembered for the unusual depth of snow, and for the obstruction to travelling occasioned thereby. Last week Tuesday and Wednesday no trains were able to pass on our railroad; they were effectually blocked a little north of the depot at Manchester. The great depth of snow makes it much more difficult to clear the track of snow now than earlier in the winter. The snow is said to be four feet deep here on the level, and in the northern part of the State at least six feet in depth. Well, that is a little too much of a good thing certainly, but there is no danger of its lasting a great while longer.

PERSONAL.—We have made arrangements with a few of our friends in some of the surrounding towns to act as our agents for the receipt of sums due us, among whom are W. G. Parker, of Sandgate, S. Grou, of East Dorset, J. L. McCall, of Rupert, D. H. Marden, of Peru. We shall have agents at other points in due time. We hope our friends will not be alarmed because some of these individuals are officers of the law; the fact of their being constables or deputy sheriffs makes it much more convenient to see our subscribers—that's all. We include in this weeks issue bills to such of our subscribers as have not paid in towns where we have no agents, and trust to receive a prompt response as we have heretofore. We need all the funds we can collect now in order to make our payments which are due in a few days.

A LITERARY EXHIBITION is to be held at the school house near G. Bradley's store, in Sunderland, Friday evening next. We have seen one of the printed programmes which consists of a

number of dialogues, recitations, addresses and tableaux, to be performed by the young gentlemen and ladies of Sunderland. This speaks well for the intelligence of the people of Sunderland, and evinces on their part a taste for literary improvement which may well be imitated by others.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER.—Although we have not yet received returns from every town in the county we have enough to show that Mr. Hiram Holley, of Dorset, is elected. We should judge his vote would exceed that of Mr. Jenks by some three hundred.

HEAD-QUARTERS, 24 Regt. Berdan's U. S. Sharpshooters, Camp Instruction, D. C., Mar. 2, 1862.

Messrs. Editors:—Once more will I, with your permission, say a few words to the readers of your sheet and my friends. It seems to me that material is decidedly scarce for a letter of interest from our camp, and indeed, I think such must be the case in all of the camps of the army of the Potomac. The fact is, we are necessarily, as it were, lying in a state of idleness, and consequently there is nothing being turned up.

It is hard telling how much longer we are thus to remain, for although the mud is partially dried up now, it is liable to come on wet again and stick us tight as ever. I used to think the climate of New England the most changeable imaginable; but really, I do not think it begins with that in which we chance to be placed at the present time. Although we do not have the excessive cold weather and deep snows that are incident to Vermont, yet we do have every other kind of weather which an active mind can imagine. One day, perchance, it will be warm as May in Vermont; the next, perhaps, will be freezing cold, with a wind that will almost demolish the frail fabric in which a soldier has to shelter himself.

A few days since, the wind arose in the morning, and with such violence that four of the five tents in which Company H is quartered soon came down, and I really think it quite lucky for the inmates that their shelter was composed of no heavier material than it is, for if such had been the case, it might not have been so easy for the inmates to extricate themselves as it was in the present. But these sudden changes I think are very deleterious to the health of our regiment. The sick list of the regiment ranges from one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and seventy-five. The sick list of Co. H to-day is twenty-eight, out of ninety-five men.

I am informed by residents of our vicinity, that the present season is a very uncommon one, and it seems to me that it would not take a very active imagination to come to that conclusion without being told. I have almost thought sometimes that the elements which composed the dispositions of a share of the inhabitants of Dixie entered also into the weather of the present time. To-day it has snowed, and now there is the most snow on the ground that there has been thus far since our arrival here some two months since. There is one thing at least in favor of the snow. It has given the boys of the regiment a chance for a game at snow balling, and I should think judging from appearances, that they had fairly improved the opportunity.

I have to acknowledge the reception of a box of Hospital clothing, mittens, socks, &c., kindly donated to our Company by the Soldier's Aid Society of East Dorset. The mittens and socks to our Company were very acceptable indeed. The things for the Hospital I turned over to our worthy Chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Barber, who pays particular attention to the needs of the sick. There is one thing which is of satisfaction to the soldier in camp; and that is to know they have friends at home that are willing and do all they can for their comfort here.

I have not time to write more this time, so I will close. Yours, H.

Message from President Lincoln.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, March 6. The President to-day submitted to Congress the following Message: *Fellow-citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:* I recommend the adoption of a joint resolution by your honorable bodies, which shall be substantially as follows: *Resolved,* That the United States ought to co-operate with any State which may adopt a gradual abolition of State, giving to such State pecuniary aid, to be used by such State in its discretion, to compensate for the inconveniences, public and private, produced by such change of system. If the proposition contained in the resolution does not meet the approval of Congress and the country, there is the end; but if it does command such approval, I deem it of importance that the States and people immediately interested should be at once distinctly notified of the fact, so that they may begin to consider whether to accept or reject it. The Federal Government would find its highest interest in such a measure, as one of the most efficient means of self-preservation. The leaders of the existing insurrection entertain the hope that the Government will ultimately be forced to acknowledge the independence of some part

of the disaffected region, and that all the Slave States north of such parts will then say, "The Union, for which we have struggled, being already gone, we now choose to go with the Southern section." To deprive them of this hope substantially ends the rebellion, and the initiation of emancipation completely deprives them of it, as to all the States initiating it. The point is not that all the States tolerating Slavery would very soon, if at all, initiate emancipation, but that while the offer is equally made to all, the more Northern shall, by such initiation, make it certain to the more Southern that *in no event will the former ever join the latter in their proposed Confederacy.* I say "initiation," because, in my judgment, gradual and not sudden emancipation is better for all.

In the mere financial or pecuniary view any member of Congress, with the census table and the Treasury reports before him, can readily see for himself, how soon the current expenditures of this war, would purchase, at a fair valuation, all the slaves in any named States.

Such a proposition on the part of the General Government, sets up no claim of a right by Federal authority to interfere with Slavery within State limits, referring, as it does, the absolute control of the subject in each case, to the State and its people immediately interested. It is proposed as a matter of perfectly free choice with them.

In the annual Message last December I thought it to say: "The Union must be preserved, and hence all indispensable means must be employed." I said this not hastily, but deliberately. War has been, and continues to be, an indispensable means to this end. A practical recognition of the National authority would render the war unnecessary, and it would at once cease. If, however, resistance continues, the war must also continue, and it is impossible to foresee all the incidents which may attend and all the ruin which may follow it. Such as may seem indispensable or may obviously promise great efficiency toward ending the struggle, must and will come.

The proposition now made, though an offer only, I hope it may be esteemed an offence to ask whether the pecuniary consideration tendered would not be of more value to the States and private persons concerned than are the institution and property in it, in the present aspect of affairs. While it is true that the adoption of the proposed resolution would be merely initiatory, and not within itself a practical measure, it is recommended in the hope that it would soon lead to important results. In full view of my great responsibility to my God and to my Country, I earnestly beg the attention of Congress and the people to the subject.

(Signed.) ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

News Summary.

Wednesday.

Washington, March 4. The following dispatch was received at the Navy Department to-day:

Cairo, Monday, March 3. To Hon. Gideon Welles: Lieutenant Commanding Shirk has this moment arrived from the Tennessee River, and brings full dispatches from Lieutenant Commanding Gwin of the Tyler, a synopsis of which is, that the two gunboats proceeded up to Pittsburgh, near the Mississippi, where a battery was opened upon them, consisting of six guns,—one of them being rifled,—which I soon silenced by the gunboats. Ninety mounted men landed under cover of the gunboats, and charged upon the enemy, driving them some distance, until they were strongly reinforced, and our party withdrew to the boats, when three regiments opened upon the gunboats, but were repulsed with great slaughter. The casualties on our side amounted to five killed and missing, and five wounded.—Lieutenant Commanding Gwin and Church, with their commands, behaved with great gallantry and judgment.—An election for town officers has taken place in Harden county, Tennessee, which resulted in 200 votes for the Union and 1300 for secession. A. H. FORT. Flag-Officer.

Thursday.

Baltimore, March 5. A letter from Fort Monroe, published in the American of this city, says that yesterday's Richmond Dispatch announces that the steamer Nashville came direct from Southampton to the North Carolina coast, and approached the blockading vessel with the Union flag flying. The Nashville went directly up under the guns of the blockading vessel, almost within hailing distance, and then passing her, raised the rebel flag and moved directly towards Fort Mifflin. The blockading vessel immediately discovered the deception, and started in pursuit of the Nashville, following her until within range of Fort Mifflin. Several shots were fired at the Nashville, but she reports nobody hurt. She claims to have brought into Wilmington a valuable cargo of bank note and printing paper. The Richmond Dispatch calls attention to mysterious "writing on the wall" indicating that Union conspirators were at work. Among these writings are the following: "Attention, Union forever." "The day is dawning." "The hour of deliverance approaches." It is these significant announcements that caused the arrest of John Minor Bott and twenty other suspected citizens of wealth, character and position, and the proclamation of martial law. The Dispatch urges summary measures for checking the progress of treason, and advocates the arrest and execution of the conspirators.

Friday.

Charleston, Va., March 5. Last night, a squadron of the first Michigan cavalry advanced as far as Perryville, on the Winchester Turnpike, and ambushed and surprised a party of rebel cavalry, putting three of them hors du combat and routing them. The Michigan par-