coln. He says : "Every one of us knows that many of those who spoke and voted for the re-el-ction of our present Chief Magis-trate dissented arroughy from some of his acts. They are, of course, tree to oppose a repetition of them. They think it of the first processing that the President should have a mainted and respectible. Capital, by whose advice he will naited and responsible Cabinet, by whose advice he will be guided, and each of whom has the confidence of the country. They insist that the Constitution was made for war as well as for peace; that nothing may be done above or beyond the law; and that in all things the rules of both President and people, of every officer, high or low, and of every citizen, is the law of the land. If the election does not agaily our indiscriminate approval of the sets of the Administration, much less does it signify an approval of any par irular plan of reconstruction, as it is called. There are those who vote i for Mr. Lincoln, and perhaps a majo my of them, who taink that no reconstruction is necessary; that in the eye of the law the Union is still unbroken; and that wi the Government has to do is to put down the rebellion, and all the rebels need to do is to submit to the

On this basis we believe that loyal men of all parties can be united in the constitutional support of the Adminis ration. But it is idle to expatiate on the duty of " supporting the Administration" nole:s the Administration will support itself by a vigorous, just, coonomical, and constitutional use of the means and powers placed in its hands for the restoration of the Union.

AFFAIRS IN PENNSYLVANIA

Presidential Election-Deficiency in the Returns

Correspondence of the Philadelphia Inquirer. HARRISBURG, NOVEMBER 29, 1864.

In the absence of the returns from a number of countles n this State giving the result of the election for Electors of President and Vice President of the United States, a new question not anticipated by the framers of the law arises, suggesting apparently insuperable obstructions to the execution of the law. In regard to the proclamation Electors cleated on the second Tuesday in November, the

"It shall be the du y of the Secretary of the Commonwealth on receiving the returns of the election of Electors, as hereinafter directed, to lay them before the Governor, who shall soumerate and ascertain the number of voice given for cash person so voted for, and shall thereupon declare, by procamation, the names of the persons duly elected and shall cause a notification of his election to be delivered to each person so chosen on or before the last Wednerday in the month of November next after such election —(Purdon's Digest, p. 384, pl. 123, Elections.)

It wil thus be seen that it is made the duty of the Secretary of the Commonwealth to make his returns of the e'ectan of Electors to the Governor in time for him to lasue his not fication to the Electors on or before the last Wednesday in November, which is to-mo.row. This is now rendered absolutely impossible, so far at least as some filteen counties of the Commonwealth are concerned, owing to a very grievous oversight and neglect on the part of the Legislature at its extra session last summer. The act extending the right of suffrage to Pennsylvania soldiers in actual military service says:

"The return judges of the several counties shall adjourn to meet at the places now directed by law on the third Friday after any general or Presidential election, for the purpose of counting the soldiers' vote; and when two or re counties are connected in the election, the meeting from each county shall be postponed in case until the Friday following."

In compliance with the provisions of this section, the judges of election in the several counties of the Commonweal b, after counting the "bome vote!" at their meeting, as provided by law, on Friday, November the 11th, adjourned to meat on the second Friday thereafter, being the che ind judges but four days in which to make their returns to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, as prostome almost impossible that there should be as many counties in as there really are. But up to the time of willing no returns have been received from Bradford, Clarica, Perest, Granne J. ffercon, Labigh, Montgomery, N. r. tau plon, Some set, En'livan, and Tiega, and but par tial returns, emitting the soldiers' vote, have thus far been received from Columbia, Fayette, Luzerce, and Wyoming, being an absence of returns from Afteen counties.

The most obvious course to be pursued would seem to be the sending of special messengers with the notification to the several Electors as soon after the receipt of full returns as pracible; but the Electors will no doubt be notified to morrow, notwithstanding the absence of the returns from the counties named. The Governor will act under the advice of Attorney-General Meredith. It is well for the Electors to be acquainted with the circumstances, as they may not be notified for several days after

the appointed time. The Proclamation of the Governor, declaring the names of the Pennsylvania Congressmen elect, will be issued in a day or two. The full returns of the general election having reached the Scoretary's office, there will, of course, be no difficulty in ascerts ning the names of the gentlemen elected The judges of election in several Congressional districis tave ruled out quite a large number of soldiers' votes, giving certificates of election to the Democratic candidates elected on the home vote. Among these Congressmen are A. H. Corfroib and J L. Dawson. As the full army vote is counted in the Secretary's office, duplicates of the same having been sent to that office by the election commissioners, the proclamation of the Governor may differ in some respects with the election judges in regard to the facts of the elections noticed.

On referring to the "official returns" heretofore published to the Pennsylvania newspapers we find that twelve of the counties which are above stated to have sent in no returns gave Gen. McCicilan a majority of nearly thirteen | in bringing to light many facts connected with the recent

GEST' TOUCE.	They voted by tonows:				
Carion columbia Payetta Brace J. flerson L. high Liz ris Montgomer Northampte Sulfara Vyomics	y			McClellan. 2 705 3 185 3 840 9 963 1 756 5 780 9 541 7 774 6 812 647 1 611	Lincoln. 1,6:5 1 739 2 848 1 433 1,4:4 3 681 6 646 6 506 3 498 330 4,116 1,179
vi j canta				47 936	35.045

From the other three counties whose returns are said Do missing we have never seen any official report, but, socording to the telegraphic reports at the time of election, they gave an aggregate majority for Mr. Lincoln of 4,210 Toter, v.s : Bradford 3,300, F. rest 10, and Somerset 900 [ Editors Natoinal Intelligencer.

ILLINOIS COTTON .- The editor of the Pera (ill ) Herald was presented, a few days since, with a sample of this season's cotton, raced in Illinois. The fibre, he says, is as fice so that raised further south. The owner of the plantat on from which this sample was taken has 960 acres under cul ivation, which will average nearly one bals per nore, and at the present price per pound he will make, micar of all expenses, \$100,000.

GOVERNMENT PLANTATIONS IN LOUISIANA

Correspondence of the Springfield Republican. VIDALIA, (LA.) NOVEMBER 10, 1864.

A hundred plantations were leased in this-Natchezdistrict for the season. As has been said, of this whole number but about twenty are having crops gathered-one in five.' The eighty have been broken up by guerrillas. My last letter gives you an ides of the process. The blacks put at work upon them have been driven back to slavery, or in considerable numbers, and with every circumstance of brutality, killed, or have escaped as they could by flight and returned to the points from which they were taken. On some of these deserted places, however, the rebels have allowed a number of blacks to remain, on condition that they would not work or gather the cotton. They make a living from the corn and potatoes and gardens which had been planted by the lessees or themselves pre-viously to the breaking up of the plantations.

The twenty plantations now occupied are all within a semioircle of about seven miles, described from Vidalia as a centre. A small force at Bullet's bayou, with another between the foot of the lake and the bend of the river below Vidalia, make these farms comparatively safe, twelve of them very comfortably so. Of the other six the York and Fletcher and the Sycamore places (scenes of the atrocities mentioned in my last) are two. Four others of the twenty are subject to the constant visitation of guerrillas, and owe their crops to the fact that the old hands and overseers remain upon them, or to other and less honorable arrangements. Of these twelve one firm has part or full control of nine. At the head of this firm stood Burnet, the Treasury agent who had the leasing of plantations, and with him was Judge Field, who was the commissioner for the leasing last year. The military authorities have once tried and convicted Field, and Burnet is now under arrest. Of the plantations on which crops are being gathered, which are outside of this safe twelve, Judge Field has at large. In how many mars he had a covart inhas at least three. In how many more he had a covert in-

terest it is impossible to say.

The out-lying eighty farms were leased by such persons as could be allured, in their ignorance of the indefensible position of their land, to the perilous undertaking, either by the promise of enormous profit, or by the humane purpose of aiding in the elevation of the black, or the patriotic motive of lightening the burden of the Government in the care of these freedmen. They have been broken up, many lives lost, a vast amount of property not only lost, but thrown directly into rebel hands, very many blacks re-sold into slavery, and very many thrown back into the hands of the Government for support. The disasters to these many are but poorly compensated by the partial success of the fortunate few who were able to locate themselves within safe lines.

The relief which these plantations have furnished to the Government in this district is just of this importance: Five of them (of the safe ones) have furnished labor to refugee blacks. They have paid the Government in rents possibly \$5,000, while the defence of the tract of land in which they were situated has cost a regiment or two of soldiers and a quarter of a million of money. This, to say nothing of the loss of life, the loss of liberty, the loss of property, and the gain to rebel resources of the eighty plantations which have been broken up.

#### FRAUDS UPON THE GOVERNMENT

From the Philadelphia Age of Monday.

We have already alluded to the stupendous frauds dis covered at the Philadelphia Navy Yard and the arrest of numerous parties implicated. These robberies have been to be secued by the Governor, declaring the names of the proven to be far more extensive than was generally supposed, and the total amount of property out of which the Government has been defrauded will not fall far short of one million of dollars. Some say that it will exceed that sum, as the thieving has been going on for the past two or three years, or since the present Administration came into power. So extensive have the peculations been that it is asserted that men with small salaries have put up large and substantial dwelling-houses. One individual, who held a sort of outside position, has in course of erection in an adjoining county a brown stone mansion, and the tin, copper, lead pipe, &c. used in the building, it is further said. all came from the navy yard. The matter has been kept quiet by those engaged in the investigation, but a few facts ecasionally leak out. The "knowing ones" say that the examination will occupy nearly two months yet, and, until that is completed, the true condition of affairs will not be laid before the public.

The robbery is one of the most wholesale character ever

ferreted out in this city. Copper was stolen by the ton. The robbery has been hold and barefaced. Every article The robbery has been bold and barelaced. Every article of value that could be carried away has been stolen, and it is said by those who are familiar with the interior workings of the yard, that at least one hundred men are concerned in the rascally action. Copper, brass, and composition metal have gone by the ton. In one instance, where a consignment of copper was lauded at Reed street wharf, for every cart load that went into the navy yard two loads went in another direction. went in another direction. The copper thus stolen found its way to New York, and in the course of trade was offered to the very individual who had in the first instance it to the navy ward at P the information which set the authorities at work.

The navy yard was in a fair way of being stripped overy thing except the ship-houses and the big gues. A majority of these robberies, it would appear, did not take place from the yard, but were carted off before the delivery took place. For instance, a vessel would arrive at one of our wharves loaded with rosin to be delivered at the navy yard. As in the case of the robbery of the copper alluded the 25 h ins ant, to count the soldiers' vote. This gave | to above a number of carts or drays were driven to other portions of the city, where they were deposited until op portunity arrived to dispose of them. In other cases goods were conveyed from the yard in carts which entered for wided by law. In consideration of this fact, many of the the purpose of carrying off chips, shavings, &c. Tin, lead countles were more than usually punctual; indeed, it pipe, &c were deposited in the bottom of these carts, which, being covered with shavings or chips, concealed the fraud. In other ways, not yet made public, robberies

were committed. On Friday three more persons connected with the yard were taken into custody and were taken to the provost barracks. About fifty barrels of rosin and several barrels of pork belonging to the Government were recovered. At the house of one man a barrel full of knives and forks were found. Some of the prisoners are at Fort Mifflin, and others

are confined elsewhere.

On haturday afternoon three more arrests were made James Gillingham, the chief clerk in the yard, was one of the parties. Those arrested on Saturday were taken out quietly by order of Commodore Hull, who is engaged in rreting the whole transaction, without reference to and without assistance from the detectives.

The investigation into the alleged frauds and abuses at the Bobuyikill arsenal is also still in progress, and the swindling, as practised here, is slowly being brought to light, and will, it is said, far exceed the navy yard speculations. The arrest of two contractors and an inspector, and their consignment to the Old Capitol, has already been noticed in our columns.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer of yesterday The robberies at the navy yard, which have been carried on for a long time past, and which have recently been dis covered, are now being thoroughly investigated. Commo dore Hull, who has lately been placed in command of this yard, is now busily engaged in ferreting out the guilty parties. The Commodore is a gentieman in every respect, and a worthy supporter of the Administration. He is de termined to accertain who has been implicated in these frauds and to bring them to justice. He never fails in any thing he undertakes. Two more men have been taken into custody, and the report that several of those already arrested have been released is unfounded. The United States officers are engaged in recovering the property of the Government stolen from the yard. On Monday seventy barrels of rosin were recovered stored away in a shed in the rear of Cadwallader street, in the Seventeenth Ward A large quantity of copper has also been recovered. There a still a large amount of property to be found, and the officers have strong hopes of getting nearly all that was stolen. Capt. Worden, the executive officer of the navy yard, who has filled his office with great credit to himself and satisfaction to the Government, has been instrumental

# SENTENCE OF MRS. HUTCHINS, (AT BALTIMORE.)

Correspondence of the Philadelphia Inquirer.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 24, 1864.
Mrs. Sarah Hutchins, wife of Thomas Hutchins, one of our most fashionable and elegant secession ladies, recently convicted by the Military Commission of attempting to send a sword to the rebel Col. Harry Gilmor, and of illegal send a sword to the rebel States, has been sentenced to five years' labor in the penitentiary and five thousand dollars fine, to be imprisoned after the expiration of five years from the day of her aftest until the fine is paid. She s still in our jail. The finding and sentence have been duly approved by Gen. Wallace, who designates the place her imprisonment at Fitchburg penitentiary, (Mass. She will be sent off soon under an appropriate military escort.

Great excitement exists on the subject, owing to some influence brought to bear by persons from her social posi-tion in endeavoring to secure her pardon. This caused an opposition sentiment to spring up, and the Union clubs and leagues have held large meetings, passing resolutions sus-taining Gen. Wallace, the Military Commission, and the

HOOD AND SHERMAN

From the Richmond Enquirer of November 23. It is one among the many novel and curious features of the present war that for a week or more the two belligerent parties have been kept in equal ignorance of the plans and even the position of two powerful armies. This is all the more remarkable as the Northern press, though shackled, is still full of energy and enterprise, and our own journals are restrained only by considerations of discretion and public policy. But the vast territory over which the operations of this war extend, the sparse population of the Southwest, and the effectually broken lines of communication explain the perplexing obscurity in which the man-

were of Hood and Sherman are shrouded.

We know, in our midst, tolerably well what the intentions of our Generals are. Brave and bold in execution, experienced, and guided by the master mind of Beauregard in his general plans, his westward move may puzzle us, but cannot cause any apprehension. What he has so success-fully concealed from his willy adversary we shall, of course, not make known through our columns, especially as nothing but a change in the weather, with the hoped for improvement in the roads, is wanting to develop his plans, and, we trust, bring them to a happy issue.

It is different with Sherman's purpose in marching out of Atlanta, which seems to be unknown to the North, and

is probably in its general outlines alone dictated by Grant, and the powers above him. Its general character, however, is not difficult to guess, from a military point of view, for, after all, war is not a mere game of contingencies, but a science, and as such subjected to fixed rules, which no good General will violate, as he knows but too well how surely the penalty follows the neglect of certain first prin-ciples. Thus it is evident enough that Sherman has tried for the last menths, and tried under most aggravating difficulties, to hold by the railroad, which forms his main line of communication with his base at Nashville.

In doing this he had to contend with the dashing attacks of Forrest, the steady pressure of Hood, and the hostility of the inhabitants all around him; his own army was exhausted by incessant marches and counter-marches, deci-mated by continued fighting and wasting disease, and finally reduced to one-half by the political exigencies of the Presidential election. Still he has held on to the last entremtry, without resuming the offensive at any one point, but waiting patiently to take advantage of any errors which the young, zealous General on his flank might commit in his operations on an immense circumference around it. He has either been disappointed in this expectation, or he has been unable, from want of men or of skill, to take advan-

This only he has gained, and it is no small gain to him, with his plans for the winter, that Hood is far off to the West, only feebly threatening his rear and his flank, and with the hostile army under Thomas between him and Atlanta. It may be that this is the position which Sherman had in view when he boasted that he would soon have Hood where he wanted him. It is certain that his pursuit has been but a series of feints, and that the door to West Tennessee was purposely left open to allure the eager looks of our gallant men in that direction.

In the mean time Sherman has found out what was long ago predicted on our side, that Atlanta could no longer be con-sidered as the pivot of an army which is unable to find subsistence in that exhausted country. It can never be made a strong place, because it is so commanded by surround-ing heights; it could easily have been taken during the three days when our troops were before it if they had been in stronger force. Besides, to make it a valuable point d'appui would require to be re-stored with ammunition and provisions, which is now impossible to introduce. Nor could it be any longer considered as a great depot, for the railroad being destroyed, or seriously threatened with constant attacks, it became valueless as such. Having, therefore, recruited and re-organized his army, and having drawn ample supplies from his base of operations, as well as from the scanty remnants of the country around him, he resumes his march southward. What may be the ultimate end of this hazardous but brilliant enterprise is, of course, not known to the public; it is most likely, we think, not finally determined upon by Sherman himself

This much only is certain, that he will try to possess himself first of Macon. Success in this managure would bring him two valuable advantages, besides the mere prestige of occupying the town and destroying whatever may be valuable there to our Government. He could thus obtain command of the railroads which lead from Macor eastward to Augusta and the seat of Government, and westward to the Mississippi, thus effectually destroying our communications with the Trans-Mississippi Depart-ment. He would, moreover, cut off Hood and his army from his base of operations, his supplies, and his means of the move is a formidable one, and it is no use to shut our eyes wilfully to the danger; far better to look it in the face eyes withinly to the anger; far better to look it in the face and prepare for resistance with vigor and dispatch. It is not unlikely that Sherman may hope even more from the moral effect of such a success on the minds of the people of Georgia. In this we are assured he will be bitterly disappointed, and soon discover how far he has been mis-led by well-meant but incautious expressions of certain high officials.

We may be equally sure that as soon as Sherman's true intentions become sufficiently known to prepare for counter movements, Georgia will rise, from the Governor to the humblest citizen, in self-defence and manly resistance. She will show the same incomparable energy and vigor with which the people of Virginia have risen in arms; the same concord which here prevails between the authorities and the people, and the same disinterestedness with which separate interests have been sacrificed to the one great and sacred purpose. Sherman may do great harm. He may emulate the destruction of Sheridan in our Valley; he may imitate Napoleon's inhuman order, to carry off all the cattle, to burn the woods and destroy the fruit trees, for such is war and its horrors.

Georgia will have to taste the bitter cup that has so long

been at our lips Her country may be ravaged, her fields may be wasted, the tears of the fatherless and the widow in her midst may mourn over cold-blooded massacres; but her revenge is at hand, and the opportunity to show her loyalty, her gallantry, and all her highest virtues is at hand, for Sherman will place himself in the most perilous posi-tion that can well be conceived. He tries to strain the system of pushing forward and making war sustain war to the utmost. He has cut himself off irretrievably from his line of communications; a very few weeks' warfare must exhaust all his resources, and the very magnitude of his forces will paralyze them from the failure of the muniments of war. The farther his army, a movable column of unusual size, removes from his base, the greater the difficulty

of support, even if supplies are still in the country.

The necessity of providing for their own wants, it well known, from military experience, is inevitably fatal to military discipline and subordination; it leads to indi vidual pillage, and that to disorganization and demoralization. The simplest arms put into the hands of reserves, militia men and boys, will enable the people of Georgia to cut off the enemy's foraging parties, to intercept his communications with the different parts of the column, to harass him on the flank and in the rear, and thus to do him more injury than he would sustain in a pitched battle.

The situation resembles in its military features strikingly that of Napoleon and the allies before the battle of Leips. Each army had passed the other and was lying in great strength upon the enemy's communications, disregarding their own. Blucher and Bernadotte were between Napo leon and the Rhine. Napoleon was between the Prussians and the Elbe. Both thought that by threatening their adversary's communications they could draw him back or reduce him to the defensive, and both acted on this princi ple. Napoleon hoped to reach Berlin, leaving the allies behind him, as Sherman hopes to reach Macon, and enterbehind him, as Sherman hopes to reach Macon, and enter-tains the project of carrying the war into the very heart of the Cotton States, and establishing his winter quarters in the hitherto untouched fields of the South. If Georgia be but true to herself, the resemblance will not end here. We trust he will yet have to say, as Napoleon did after the battle of Ulm, "Well, this is war. High in the morning, low enough at night. From a triumph to a fall is often but

## THE CONDITION OF SLAVERY IN KENTUCKY:

The Louisville Journal shows that the labor system of Kentucky has been so much disturbed by the rebellion that immediate emancipation has become a necessity, to save the State from being depopulated of its able-bodied laborers, and left, besides, with the aged and the women and children to support. We extract from its description:

"What is our case, and the pressure upon us? In the "What is our case, and the pressure upon us? In the central parts—the Blue Grass region and the Green River country—the heaviest slaveholding portions of the State, their condition is deplerable. Our system of labor is utterly demoralized; no family know when they rise in the morning whether they have a servant to prepare breakfast for them or not. But this is by no means the worst, for a contract of the country of the cou family of any industry may contrive to cook their own breskiast, and dinner too, but some of our farmers are almost or quite deprived of their laborers. Some have lost one or two hands, but some have lost a fourth or lost one or two hands, but some have lost a fourth or a half, and some all of their servants. The important considerations here suggest themselves, how are the farms of such men to be cultivated next season, and, if not culti-vated, where are our supplies of food to come from? These are practical questions for Kentucky planters and farmers to meet, and they have nothing to do with the result of the late election; they are contingent solely upon the rushing tide of uncontrollable events in the prosecu-tion of the war to put down the rebellion."

The Journal states that it is in receipt of numerous letters asking if something cannot be done in a shorter way than the process required to amend the Constitution to get rid of the emancipation prohibition, and declaring that if that is the only remedy, the patient must die before it can take effect. To meet the case, it proposes immediate compensated emancipation by the Legislature. The Constitution forbids the Legislature to emancipate without compensation, not with compensation.

ANOTHER VOICE FROM THE ARMY.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,

any manner by which expression can be obtained, pledge the sentiment of their leader, that "the Union must be reserved at all hazards."

We were sorry to find that the editor of the World, of New York city, had so ungenerously perverted what we knew to have been the honest and frank sentiments expressed in the Path of Duty" letter. The secret of his interpretation was apparent in his opening sentence. The anomaly of the suggestion made seemed to cause him to view the proposition with suspicion. He imagined he saw a Greek lurking peneath the bushes. Let me assure him that every Demoerat I have heard express an opinion, even those most earnest in seeking the election of our former loved commander, agree with the writer of "The Path of Duty" as to what the times demand of the Democratic party. Most truly does he state that the present crisis of the nation

The editor of the World allows his suspicions to overshadow his judgment when he infers that Major Fisher asks the Democratic party to strike its colors and surrender at discretion ; to give the President elect " a carte blanche to do "whatever he pleases without danger of public censure;" to give over the "vigilance" and wholesome criticism so necessary to check corruption. No one will pretend to deny that it is the duty of every American citizen, irrespective of party, to watch with jealous eye each act duty that should be held more sacred than this. Each day of our existence as a nation demonstrates more clearly that "the price of liberty is eternal vigilance." But is it probable that we, as Democrats, will be less watchful of our national character and privileges after patriotically pledging ourselves "to stand firmly by the constituted authorities" in their just endeavors to crush a rebellion we all with one accord admit to be the most wicked and causeless the world has ever seen ?

sands of other Democrats should enter the armies of our country in this great crisis, there should be no hesitancy upon the part of the party to state so. It is not asked to lend itself to any particular policy or party dogma, but it can and no doubt should hold itself in reserve in that respect To yield its identity or sacrifice those principles which for many years are entwined with the very history of the country would be a public calamity. Knowing the principles and views of the writer of the letter referred to, we read his suggestions without any fears arising on account of the honor or organization of the party if it should accept the proposition. For the party to do this would be simply to be true to its own instincts. It was not wont to stand aloof and calmly look on the nation struggling for its existence. When in our history did it not make the cause of the nation its own? At no time did it more heartily do so than at the outbreak of this rebellion. We boast to-day of her action in 1861, when her best men not merely justified the Government in employing the military power of the nation to meet and suppress armed insurrection, but themselves grasped the sword in the cause of the country and retributive justice. Has treason assumed a more attractive form since the summer of sixty-one, when we boldly denounced it both through the press and from the stand? Has the Union become less dear, and are we less in earnest in its cause than we were three years ago? To suppose so for a moment would be to libel the patriottem of the Democratic masses. I have not a doubt but that thousands upon thousands of those who voted for General McClellan for the Presidency have said in their hearts Amen to the resolve suggested. They cannot fail to see the great moral effect such a course would have in bringas already to recommend it the example of him who was selected to represent us in the late political contest; and can we hesitate to endorse by unequivocal expression the good old Union-loving and true Democratic language and sentiment which tells to the world that "the Union will be preserved at all hazards?"

H. P. CLINTON.

## CONFEDERATE LAW.

The Richmond Sentinel of the 16th publishes in full the opioion of Judge Richard Parker, of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, State of Virginia, in the case of Edward W. Ma-gruder, brought before him by habeas corpus for relief

The facts were that Magruder was a citizen of Mary-land at the breaking out of the rebellion. In the first burst f his ardor in the Southern cause he went South and enisted for three years in the rebel army. He has enough and wants to go home. But, before his three years had elapsed, the Confederate Congress enlisted him for life by an act declaring that "all white men, residents of the Confederate States, between the ages of seventeen and fifty, shall be in the service of the Confederate States for the war;" and, further, "that all the persons aforesaid be tween the ages of eighteen and forty-five, now in the ser

this universal net by setting up that he was a citizen of Mary-land, and not of the Confederate States, but Judge Parker put him down by an array of reasons and a wealth of logic that has not been equalled since the celebrated case of the borrowed kettle. From the embarrassment of riches we select at random a few of the points made by the learned

has never separated herself from that Government only between the two governments, but places all their citizens or subjects, whatever may be their individual symcitizens or subjects, whatever may be their individual sympathies or opinions with respect to the justice or even the constitutionality of this war, in the condition of enemies. 'He has been alghting against Maryland since July, 1861. How then can it be said that his home is still in Maryland?' And 'if he is not in law a resident of Maryland, he must almost necessarily be a resident of the Confederate States, for he has been abiding here ever since his removal from his former home." If Magruder is a citizen of Maryland, he is an alien enemy, and may be treated as a prisoner of war, or a spy, or as any character that the Confederacy may choose to put on an enemy found within its lines in may choose to put on an enemy found within its lines in the disguise of a friend. This would make it safer for Magruder to own himself a Confederate. The learned Judge said :

If he is a citizen of Maryland he has committed treason against the United States by levying war upon them, and if he goes to Maryland he is liable to be hanged for treason. and the Confederacy cannot extend its protection over him and demand for him the treatment of a prisoner of war and demand for him the treatment of a prisoner of war.
The Confederacy cannot allow its soldiers to take a character which would thus expose them. Therefore Magruder is a Confederate. If he is a citizen of Maryland he is an alien enemy, "and the writ of habeas corpus will not lie in his behalf." "The very act of enlisting in an army against his own country severs, for a time, his political connexion with that country, and he can afterward reactions of himself in country. quire it, of himself, in no other way than by returning to his former residence." And as the Confederacy will not he borner residence. And as the Confederacy will not let him return, he has become a Confederate. It is true, Magruder eclisted for three years only, but he probably would have enlisted for the war had that been the term of enlistment at that time. This disapproves the averment that he came into the Confederacy for a specific temporary purpose. The Confederacy has only carried his original

purpose. The Confederacy has only carried his original purpose to its ultimate.

We think it will be admitted that these points alone make the case complete, without giving the others or the Judge's authorities—Cin. Gaz.

The product of oranges on many plantations in Louisi. A cata ana will be this season much in excess of sugar and cotton: office.

THE CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

In the Confederate Senate, on Friday, the 18th instant, Mr. SPARROW introduced a bill to amend an act entitled 'An act providing for the catablishment and payment of claims for certain descriptions of property taken or informally impressed for the use of the army." The bill continues the act in force for twelve months from the periods end of the said twelve months—that is to say, on the 1st day of January, 1866, on the east of the Mississippi river, and on the 1st day of May west of the Mississippi river—
the said act shall cease and determine. The bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Brown, of Mississippi, offered the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be in structed to inquire whether military officers in command of departments have authority, under existing laws, to impress negroes, wagons, teams, &c. for the purpose of building or repairing rairroads belonging to private companies, and if not, what legislation is necessary to rest ain such military officers within reasonable and proper limits in this regard. Mr. BARNWELL, from the Finance Committee, pre-

sented a bill to extend the time within which holders o sented a bill to extend the time within which holders of Treasury notes of the old issue may exchange the same for notes of the new issue. The bill extends the time from the lat of January, 1865, to the lat day of July 1865 Some discussion ensued, after which the bill was read the third time and passed.

Mr. Barnwell presented a petition of bankers, brokers, planters, and others, that the owners of registered bonds, of the fifteen million loan, be authorized by law to exchange the same for coupon bonds. It was referred to the Committee on Figures.

ittee on Finance

Mr. ORR offered the following resolution, which was

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Affairs be requested to report the facts, so far as they can be obtained, relative to the lawless seizure and capture of the Conf-derate steamer Florida, in the Bay of Bahia, Brazil, and wh.t action should be taken by this Government to redress the

WAR RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. HENRY, of East Tennessee, offered the following oint resolutions, defining the position of the Confederate States, and declaring the determination of the Congress, and the people thereof, to prosecute the war till their indeendence is acknowledged:

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America. That the people of the Confederate States are endowed by their Creator with the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights Governments were instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed and whenever any Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish these ends, it is the right of the people to after or aboust it, and to institute a new Government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness; that on these principles, embodied in the Declaration of American Independence, the United Colonies, in 1776, dissolved the connexion that bound them to the Government of Great Britain, and on them the Confederate States have severed the bonds of that political union which consected them with the proceeds of the Government of Great Britain. union which connected them with the people of the Gov ernment of the United States of America, rather than sub mit to the repeated injuries inflicted upon them by that people, and to the usurpations of that Government, all of which had the direct object to deprive them of their rights, rob them of their property, secured to them by constitu-tional guarantee, and to establish an absolute tyranny over these States.

Resolved, That the Confederate States appealed to arms in defence of these rights and to establish these principles only after they had in vain conjured the people of the Go vernment of the United States, by all the ties of a common kindred, to discountenance and discontinue these injuries and usurpations, and after they had petitioned for redress. in the most appropriate terms, and received in answer only a repetition of insults and injuries, which foreshadowed usurpations still more dangerous to liberty.

Resolved, That, after nearly four years of cruel, devas-tating, and unnatural war, in which the people of the Con federate States have unquestionably established their capa-city for self-government, and their ability to resist the attempts of the enemy to subjugate them, this Congress does not hesitate to avow its sincere desire for peace; and to that end proclaim to the world the readiness of the Government of the Confederate States to open negotiations to establish a permanent and honorable peace between the Confederate States and the United States, upon the basis of

Resolved. That the time has come when the Confederate Congress, in the name of the people of the Confederate States, deem it proper again to proclaim to the world their unalterable determination to be free; and that they do not abate one jot of their high resolve to die freemen rather than live slaves; and, further, if the people of the United States, by re electing Abraham Lincoln, mean to tender to them four years more of war or re-union with them on any terms, deeply deprecating the dire necessity so wantonly thrust upon them, and relying upon the justice of their cause and the gallantry of their soldiers, they accept the gauge of battle, and leave the result to the righteous abitrament of Heaven.

Resolved, That in view of the determination of the

and which the enemy have waged with mextraordinary vigor, and which has been marked by acts of extraordinary atrocity, in violation of all the usages of civilized warfare, the Congress of the Confederate States will from this hour dedicate themselves anew to the great cause of self defence against the combined tyranny of the enemy; that it shall no longer be the momentary occupation of the Congress and the people of the Confederate States, but the business of their lives, to gather together the entire strength of the country in men and material of war, and put it forth, as with the will of one man, and with an unconquerable de termination to defend their altars and their firesides till the last votary of freedom falls around them.

Mr. Henry did not desire to discuss the resolutions at

the time. He merely wished to have them printed and placed upon the calendar. At the proper time he trusted that Senators would express their sentiments on this ques tion, and a spirit would go out to the country that we are fully up to the mark, and intend to achieve our indepen-dence or die in the good fight.

The resolutions were ordered to be printed; and the

senate then went into Executive session with closed doors In the House of Representatives, on the same day, Mr' Baldwin, of Va , introduced a resolution that the Presi dent be requested to inform the House by what authority
the War Department is impressing slaves in Virginia
without regard to State laws. Adopted.
Mr. Goode, of Va., introduced a resolution requesting

the President to communicate to the House copies of all orders issued by the War Department for the impressment of brandies and other spirituous liquors. Adopted.

Mr. Chilton, of Ala., introduced a bill to establish a
Supreme Court. Referred.

Also, what legislation is necessary to expedite the revi ion of the decision of military courts. Referred. Mr. Lyon, of Ala., introduced a bill providing for the imressment of iron equipments, rolling stock, &co. of rail

oads. Referred. Mr. J. T. Leach introduced a resolution declaring that secret sessions are incompatible with a republican form of Government, and Congress never ought to go into secret session except when absolutely necessary. Referred to the

Finance Committee.
On motion of Mr. Russell, of Va., the House resolved itself into secret session; and, having reopened, adjourned.

## CLOTHING THE REBEL PRISONERS

From the Richmond Whig of November 21. We are gratified to learn that a correspondence has

taken place between Col. R. Ould, Commissioner of Ex change, and Gen. U. S. Grant, resulting in the arrangement of the details for supplying the prisoners of war on each side with clothing and provisions. The details were submitted by Col. Ould to Gen. Grant, who promptly replied, "All you ask shall be complied with."

In accordance with these details one thousand bales of sotton will be shipped this week from Mobile to New York in a United States vessel. The cotton will be receipted for and consigned to Gen. Trimble, now at Fort Warren, who will be paroled in order that he may make necessary arrangements for the sale of the cotton and the purchase of articles needed by our prisoners, at points where the proseeds can be expended to the best advantage. In case o his disability Gen. W. W. R. Beale will act as his alternate

The Delaware Gazette se ; the best farms in that State are now sold for less mon in paper than they would have brought ten or twelve yould ago. Farmers fear the war will not leave sufficien iforce to till the land.

Capt. PHELPS, who served with distinction in the Mississippi squadron, as second in command to Commodore Foote, and afterward to Admiral Porter, has resigned his position in the service to accept an advantageous offer from the "California Mail Steamship Company." He will act as their agent at Acapulco, at which point he will likewise secure the Consulship.

VALUABLE LIBRARY .- The extensive and recherché library of the late CHARLES CARROLL, of Carrollton, consisting of several thousand volumes, is to be sold at auction at Baltimore, by Gibson & Co., 7 North Charles street, commencing on Monday evening, December 5th, and to be continued every following evening until completed. A catalogue of the books may be seen at the Intelligencer DIVISIONS IN THE REBEL CONGRESS.

A debate in the rebel House of Representatives on the 9th instant, on the question of decreasing the number of exemptions under State authority, disclosed some import ant facts as to the growing dissensions at the South. During the debate the whole subject of reconstruction was brought under review, and the course of Vice President Stephens was bitterly denounced by the radical seces-

Mr. LEACH, of North Carolina, in defending the peace party, said he endorsed every word written and spoken by Gov. Brown and Vice President Stephens, as also the views expressed by the gen leman from South Carolins, (Mr. Boyce.) He was aware that an avowal of such sentiments was looked upon by some as discovering a taint of disloyalty; but he was satisfied with his company, and when they were hung, he was content to ask the poor privilege of being hung with them. Mr. Milles, of Sou h Carolins, deprecated all avowals of this character as likely to lead to fatal divisions.

Mr. FCOIE, of Is messee, said that gentlemen had gonout of their way to attack the Vice President. Mr. Ste phens had no seat on this floor, and no right to speak in
his own defence; and therefore contumely was heaped
upon h m, and skulking attacks were made by members
who dered not meet him is no to face in open debate.

Mr. LESTER, of Georgis, raised a point of order. The
debate was not confined to the surject under discussion.

The CHAIR. The gentleman is out of order. The gen-teman will proceed in order.

Mr. Foote (excitedly)—Yes, sir, I understand how this is. The Vice President has been arraigned here to day, and no restriction was placed upon the debate then. It seems to be very much in order to denounce—entirely out

of order to defend—him.

Mr. Miller, of South Carolina. The gentleman said something about skutking attacks having been made on the Vice President in this House. He believed he had said something in reference to that gentleman, and he wished the gentleman to say whether he meant to intimate that

he had made any skulking attack.

Mr Foore No, sr, a very open one. I designate as skulking attacks all those made in secret session. Mr. Foote agreed that this was no time to propose terms of peace, but believed that we had friends at the North, and that ere long the North would send ambaseadors with propositions of peace, unless we put ourselves in too lowly an attitude or irelaxed our military exertions. Mr. F. went on to state what he conceived would be the nature of such propositions, and what he thought would be the duty of Congress under such circumstances, and what would be nis own position.

A letter just published by Vice President Stephens explains his position in regard to the reconstruction question He intimates, among other things, that Gen. Jefferson Davis is suspected of being one of those who opposed the election of McClellan for fear that an offer of peace, on the terms of the restoration of the Union, would lead to reconstruction and peace on that basis. He argues also that the States have no right to return separately to the Union

#### THE CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

A Proposition Condemna'ory of Secession.

In the Confederate House of Representatives, on the 25th instant, Mr. J. T. Leach, of North Carolina, offered the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas the unfriendly, unjustifiable, and unpatriotic interference of citizens of the non-slaveholding States in their popular assemblies, from the pulpit and by legislative enactments, with the reserved rights of the States, provided in the Constitution of the United States, and by the laws of Congress, has been the prolific cause of a cruel, bloody, and relentless war that has no parallel in point of atrocity in the annals of the world, between a people professing the Christian religion:

And whereas the citizens of the Slave States, at an unand whereas the citizens of the Slave States, at an un-guarded moment, under the influence of unuiss counsel, without mature deliberation as to the fearful consequences, made the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency of the United States the occasion for precipitating the Confederate States out of the Union, which has been fol-lowed by a train of fearful consequences not contem-plated by those who advocated the measure:

And whereas we, the representatives of the people of the Confederate States, desiring to place ourselves fairly before our constituents, our enemies, and the civilized world, declare that it is our earnest desire that proper measures should be adopted by the respective Govern-ments to secure an honorable, just, and permanent peace, not incompatible with the principles laid down in the Con stitution of the United States nor with the inalienable

rights of freemen:

Resulved, That the reserved rights of the States should be guarded with watchful and jealous vigilance, and that any attempt to infringe upon those rights should be resisted by all lawful and proper means.

Resulved, That whenever the Government of the United

States shall signify its willingness to recognise the reserved rights of the States, and guarantee to the citizens of the States their rights of property, as provided in the Consti-tution of the United States and the laws of Congress—to piness and prosperity perpetuated—we will agree to treat for peace; and that such terms of peace as may be agreed to by commissioners appointed by the respective Govern-ments, or by the States acting in their sivereign and inde-pendent character, and ratified by a majority of the peo-ple, shall constitute the bond of peace between the North

Mr. LEACH said : Mr. Speaker, the resolutions that I hold in my hand, and that I propose to read, by the permission of the Chair, are not intended as an apple of discord in our midst. I trust, sir, that they may not produce discord in our midst. All I ask is that they may have a calm, careful, unprejudiced bearing. I do not offer them unadvisedly. I have consulted my friends as to the propriety of introducing them, as well as the proper time and circum-tances There is a different opinion as to the propriety of time and circumstances. I do not offer teem for the purpose of strengthening the arm of the enemy. That has been effectually done by the President in his speech in Macon, (Ga ) and more effec uslly strengthened by the Governors of the Confederate States and the Presi dent when they recommended the use of negroes as a idlers in the Confederate army. I do not offer them for the purpose of discouraging our heroic soldiers, who have braved the leaden ball of death upon the bloody battle field. I believe it will arouse them to know that they are fighting for something more dear to them than the negro. I offer them because I believe there is something practical in them. I offer them because I am satisfied that my constituents, both citizens and soldiers, desire an honorable peace.

I offer them because I am satisfied that the prayers of Curistians, statesmen, and patriots have been poure I out for peace, and that the great heart of the nation is pulsat-ing for peace. I offer them because I know that war is relentiess, crael, blind monster, killing where he cannot make alive and resping where he has not sown.

Mr. Leach desired to be understood as not including the Border States" in his resolutione, the ordinances of secession having bren adopted in the "Cotton States" long before the "Border States" went out. The latter

acted under the pressure of circumstances over which the had no control. Mr. Montague, of Virginia, said he did not design saying anything when he entered the hall to-day, but he was un-willing to let the resolutions of the gentieman from North Carolina pass without a protest. He reviewed them

Carolina pass without a protest. He reviewed them eloquently and carnestly, and moved that they be rejected. Mr Leach asked that the vote be taken by yeas and nays, and the House seemed to rise simultaneously tain the call.

The roli being called, all the members voted in the affirmative except Mesars. Fuller, J. M. Leach, J. T.

Lesch, Logao, Ramsey, and Turner—all of North Carolina. Messrs. Fuller, Ramsey, and J. M. Leach, after the vote was anounced, asked leave to change their votes, as they had voted in the negative under the apprehension that it would be regarded as a ciscourtesy to an honorable col-

Their votes were, with the coaseat of the House, re corded in the affirmative. Mr. J. M Leach stated that he knew there was no mem

ber on the floor from North Carolina who desired peace upon any other terms than elernal separation from the North. [Applause in the galleries, which was checked by Applause in the galleries, which was checked by On motion of Mr. Russell the House went late secret

## LETTER OF THE PRESIDENT.

BOSTON, NOV. 25 .- Mrs. Bixby, the recipient of the following letter from President Lincoln, is a poor widow living in this city. Her sixth son, who was severely wounded in a recent battle, is now lying in the Readville

> "EXECUTIVE MANSION. Washington, November 21, 1864.

"DEAR MADAM: I have been shown on the file of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of

War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle.

"I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming; but I cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save.

"I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavements, and leave only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the alter of freedom.

Yours, very sincerely and respectfully,

To Mrs. Bixny, Boston, Massachusetts."

Government in their course in this case, denouncing all who interfere to prevent an example being made of Mrs. Hutchins and the offence of which she is pronounced guilty

" BIG CARE "-A confectioner in New York got up a Thank-giving cake for the Ladies' Home Mission, which was ten feet loog, 22 inches wide, and 16 inches thick. To make it it took 1,000 eggs, 175 pounds of flour, 125 pounds f sugar, and 80 pounds of batter.

To the Editors of the National Intelligencer : It is gratifying to every patriot, and especially to every oldier, to see the happy manner in which the public receive the suggestions made by Major Fisher in the letter published in your columns on the 15th instant, under the title of "The Path of Duty." With him we believe that if such an expression is given by the party it will have the most favorable effect in bringing about a speedy peace. It will convince the people of the South that they have no alternative left but to return to their allegiance to the Government. The nation at large have refused to open their doors to them, and as soon as they know that the best terms to be expected can be obtained to-day they will not be slow in accepting them. This will be the lesson taught by the Democracy if they either by general Convention, through the several State Committees, or in

'demands something more than mere negative patriotism.'

of their public servants. There is, perhaps, no Christian If it was right, and it most assuredly was, that I and thou-

rom conscription.

vice, shall be retained during the present war with the United States in the same regiments, batteries, and companies to which they belonged at its passage."

The dissatisfied Marylander sought to escape the draft of

If Magruder "Is a citizen of Maryland he owes allegi-

suce to her and through her to the United States, as she Now that war, when declared by two nations, is war not

Judge said:

"And if the petitioner is a citizen of Maryland, he is at one and the same time both a soldier of, and an enemy of, the Confederate States. And again, every act of his, done as a soldier, is an act of enmity to his State and to himself as a citizen of that State; and thus his duty as a citizen is circelly opposed to his duty as a soldier. I am unwilling to regard him as occupying a position involving such contradictions, and am, therefore, or the opinion that the petitioner, when he came over to us some months after the breaking out of the war, and joined the Confederate army, gave the strongest possible evidence of his purpose no longer to continue a resident of Maryland."

before and telephones associated as exami-