

New Dress.—Having procured a general outfit for this office during the past week, the American will appear in an entire new dress on the 10th of April, and be otherwise improved.

We return our sincere thanks to those who have sent us new subscribers. We hope they will follow their example and exert themselves in our behalf, and send us subscribers and Job work.

The bill to repeal the Tenure-of-office act was reported in the Senate on Wednesday, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Henry D. Moore has been appointed Collector of the Customs of Philadelphia. Mr. Marks, owing to the strong opposition to him, resigned before entering upon the duties of the office.

The Agriculturalists.—The Harrisburg State Guard, in speaking of the Agriculturalists, says, "the assemblage of practical agriculturists which took place in the House of Representatives on Wednesday, is well worthy of a favorable notice, for the reason that those who composed that body represented a class which has long been neglected by the press, Congress and State Legislatures.

The Constitutional Amendment.—The Legislature of Delaware and Kentucky have of course rejected the Fifth Article of the National Constitution. Had they done otherwise we should have been apprehensive that some great evil was about to befall the country.

The Georgia Legislature—whose legality was never established, after ratifying the Amendment and then reconsidering it, has finally failed to ratify so far as the Senate is concerned, while the house has again ratified. As Congress will doubtless provide a Provisional government again for that recalcitrant State, the present action of the Legislature is of no effect.

The Democracy in Indiana are generally nominating the legislative bolters for reelection. A legislator has declined to answer boys' and girls' high schools hereafter in separate buildings.

The Democratic papers exhibit great gloom over the pretended discovery that General Longstreet was once indicted for smuggling.

The Penitentiary of Rebellion.

Had Head Island was formerly owned by General Seabrook, the largest slaveowner in the country, and one of the very wealthiest men at the South. He owned twelve hundred slaves. His plantations were immense in extent; his income was enormous. The family consisted of himself, a wife, a son and daughter-in-law, and an unmarried son. They enjoyed every luxury; they lived in grand style; the sons had been carefully trained and educated; the family knew only the highest society of Europe and the country.

General John A. Rawlins. Major General John A. Rawlins, the new Secretary of War, was born in Jo Davies county, Illinois, February 13, 1831, and was reared as a farmer and a charcoal-burner. He was educated at the University of Illinois, where he went to Galena, Illinois, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1855. He at once commenced practice, and continued to devote his attention to the law until the breaking out of the war.

The English Press on Grant. The English papers last received abound in comments on President Grant's inaugural. The London Times gives a very favorable review, and concludes: "In the principles Gen. Grant enunciates throughout this document, briefly as they are expressed, we see nothing but the most judicious and honorable career. The Star's opinion is equally favorable. Ever the President's reference to the Alabama question is regarded as much more generous than might have been apprehended. It says: "All that we know of his character and conduct is such as to lead us to believe that he is elevated to power by the will of a people of wisdom and moderation. His program is an eminently pacific one. The warlike spirit has no place in it."

Postage Stamps on New Designs.—Information has been received by the Postmaster here from the Finance Office of the Department in Washington, that at an early day, in the regular course of business, the Department will issue to postmasters postage stamps of new designs. The description of the new stamps is as follows: One cent.—Head of Franklin, looking to the left, surrounded by a circle; U. S. Postage at top, one cent at bottom, with the numeral 1 in a small oval between the words. Color: Roman Ochre.

Two Cents.—Post horse and rider, facing left, surrounded by ornamental scroll work; United States Postage at top, two cents at bottom, with numeral 2 between the words. Color: Light Bronze. Three Cents.—Locomotive, heading to the right, surrounded by ornamental scroll work; United States Postage at top, three cents at bottom, with numeral 3 in a shield between the words. Color: Imperial Ultramarine.

Five Cents.—Shield, on which is resting an eagle with outspread wings; eagle looking to left; United States Postage in upper section of shield; numeral 10 in lower; the words ten cents in a scroll at bottom.—The whole design surrounded by 13 stars arranged in a semi circle. Color: Orange. Twelve Cents.—Ocean steamship, surrounded by ornamental scroll work; United States Postage at top; twelve cents at bottom, with numeral 12 between the words. Color: Malton Green.

Twenty-four Cents.—Declaration of Independence; ornamental and scroll work at top and bottom; U. S. Postage at top, fifteen cents at bottom, with numeral 15 underneath. Color: Blue. Thirty Cents.—Eagle, facing to left with outspread wings, resting on shield, with flags grouped on either side. The words U. S. Postage in upper section of shield; the numeral 30 in lower; the words thirty cents across the bottom. Thirteen Stars arranged in semi circle, at top of design. Color: Eagle and Shield, Corn: Flags, Blue.

Thirty Cents.—Head of Lincoln, in an oval, three-quarter face looking to right, surrounded by ornamental and scroll work; numeral 30 at each of the upper corners of the oval; United States Postage at top, thirty cents in scroll at lower left and right corners of oval, respectively; U. S. at lower left and right corners of oval, respectively. Color: portrait in Black; surrounding ornamental and scroll work Carmine.

Miss Van Lew.

We greet with happy satisfaction the appointment of Miss Eliza Van Lew, as postmistress of Richmond, Virginia. A special order of the President confers this well-deserved honor upon her. And there are thousands of our soldiers now scattered throughout the land who will approve the appointment; a recognition of their own sufferings, as well of the pitying tenderness and self-sacrificing loyalty of a noble woman. Miss Van Lew was a resident of the city of Richmond, in an elegant mansion on what is known as Church Hill, when the rebellion broke out. Thoroughly loyal at heart, she early found a way to make her known to the "Yanks" who were confined in tobacco warehouses of that city, after the disastrous battle of Ball Run. Books and comforts were sent to the starving captives, while Captain Todd (a brother of Mrs. Lincoln) was commandant of the prison. But that worthy gobbled up everything of the kind, and vented his rage in drunken curses on the giver, and those to whom they were sent. But where there is a will, there is a way, and woman's wit will always find it. Nothing daunted by her first failure, Miss Van Lew offered rooms in her house to Captain Gibbs, the successor of Todd. Under this cover she could and did exercise a degree of hospitality to the prisoners, in the way of books, provisions and clothing. Gibbs was an old soldier and a kindly man, though in many respects a severe disciplinarian. Evidently, he winked at the acts of the lady beneath whose roof he was housed. Her kindness was very many, and was continued, when it was possible, through the war. The writer is indebted to her for comforts that were not only substantial, and helped to ward off the effects of rebel starvation and cruelty, but for the still more exquisite consolation of being that, even when the rebel flag waved, the Union had tried and trusted friends. Said this lady, on the day when we left Richmond for the North, as she pointed to the stars and bars that waved above the Capital at Richmond, when she so called Confederate Congress in session, "I would gladly see my home laid in ruins, if I could gladly see the Government of the United States restored here. Tell your friends at the North that there are some of us left still who pray day and night, that the stars and stripes may take the place of that rag of rebellion!" It was through the kindness of Miss Van Lew that a home was offered to Hon. Calvin Huson, of Rochester, a few days previous to his death. The rebel authorities kept this distinguished gentleman confined in the room where nearly a hundred officers passed their days and nights. Her kindness was made by them, and by 500 private soldiers in the rooms above, was incessant and hard to be borne by a well man—until delirium had set in from typhoid fever. Then they yielded a reluctant consent to the entreaties of his faithful friend and fellow-prisoner, Hon. Alfred Ely, of Rochester, and allowed the invitation of Miss Van Lew to be accepted. There Mr. Ely closed his eyes to sleep; from this hospitable mansion, followed by two of his late fellow-prisoners, under Confederate guards, and the family of the host, the body was carried to the cemetery; in a grave, the burial plot of the Van Lews, it was laid to rest until it should be claimed by kindred; and waiting until the grave was filled, the hands of the loyal lady planted a rose bush on the mound that covered one who had been "only a prisoner of war." But neither time nor space will suffice to repeat the good deeds of this friend of the Union that have come within our ken. It is enough to say that their name is legion. Such devotion of loyalty was rare during the war, and deserves to be recognized accordingly. It is to be hoped that every soldier will appreciate. And the women of the nation will rejoice that the President has, by this act, championed the true doctrine of woman's rights.—Troy Times.

From Cuba. Havana, March 18.—The insurgents under Aguilera and Marmel have defeated Lopez at Mayari, killing three hundred men. Marmel was wounded. Lopez retreated to Santiago. A wounded volunteer reports that the Spanish general Latona was defeated at Villa Clara on March 5. It will take ten thousand men to restore railroad communication with this place. The freeman on a plantation near Puerto Principe reports that the women and children are leaving their homes to join the insurgents, and the Spanish general Lecea has warned them to return or they will be liable to the penalties of military law. A vague rumor is widely circulated that the insurgents, in combination with some monitors, have captured Santiago de Cuba.

From Washington. The President's family moved into the Executive Mansion on Friday last, though the edifice has not wholly been renovated. Although the dentists of Japan have advanced so far as to procure sets of artificial teeth fitted to the irregularities of the gums and palate, and supported by atmospheric pressure, they extract teeth in a most unskillful way, by pulling them out with the fingers, after having loosened them by blows with a mallet. Es-Governor Gilpin, of Colorado, has written and argued that, under the Rocky Mountains are solid masses of gold of incalculable magnitude and weight. The celebrated western scholar, Mr. Catlin, has just communicated to the world his belief that a great river, "larger than the Mississippi," flows under the Rocky Mountains, and he is about to submit the evidence which he has collected in favor of this startling hypothesis. The river will prove very convenient for transporting the masses of gold,—when found.

The Reconstitution Committee agreed, today, to report Mr. Butler's bill providing a Provisional Government for Mississippi. It calls the old Constitutional Convention into existence for sixty days, and empowers it to appoint a Provisional Governor, who shall have power to appoint all officers necessary to conduct the election. The Convention is to submit the Constitution heretofore made to the people, with such amendments as they may agree upon for ratification. Any person attempting to interfere in any manner with the rights of persons at the polls, or to break up meetings, called for political discussion, or to be imprisoned for three years and fined three hundred dollars, besides paying costs of prosecution. The President has power to remove the Provisional Governor at pleasure. The Constitution, when ratified, is to be submitted to Congress for approval. The chances are against its passage at this session. As Congress will not meet here long enough to mature legislation for the Rebel States.

The Finances—Favorable Condition. It is stated on semi-official authority that the financial condition of the Treasury, at the close of the present fiscal year, will be more favorable than was anticipated. The receipts from customs promise to exceed those of any one year in the history of the Government. It is said to exceed without doubt the sum of \$200,000,000 in excess of the estimates; and it is not impossible that they may even reach the high figure of \$200,000,000. The internal revenue receipts to the present time are in excess of \$100,000,000. The remaining balance in the Treasury, after deducting the portion of the income tax and the special taxes which fell due May 1, and which will augment the receipts to \$150,000,000, and possibly to \$160,000,000. This will be fully up to Commissioner Wells' estimate for internal revenue, and if the latter figure is reached it will be considerably in excess of it.

From South America. New York, March 23.—The Brazilian Times, of Feb. 22, received by the steamship Mercurio, mentions the arrival of several generals from the seat of war, at Rio de Janeiro, and the great excitement in the country from Assumption returned with 1000 starving Paraguayans. Lopez was still in the mountains, and Minister McMahon was still with him. The Paraguayans who remained when the army left were massacred by scouting parties of Lopez's army. The cholera prevails throughout the whole country. The ironclads had been ordered back up the river. A "Home Bank" in Montevideo had failed, and a temporary business by the other bank there caused considerable monetary excitement. Several bridges and much other property around Pernambuco had been swept away by a sudden rise of the river. There had been a severe drought in the interior, and the inhabitants are dying to the southeast for food and water, and large numbers of cattle are dying. Freight to the United States was advanced.

From Cuba.

A movement is on foot in St. Louis to call a convention of all the Irish religious and benevolent societies in the United States. Advice from General Custer have been received; they are dated the 6th inst., and represent the gallant cavalrism at its liberty and chasing the Indians. On Monday night the police of Richmond, Va., arrested Governor Wells, H. G. Bond and L. E. Dudley, on the charge of perjury in a letter from the Post Office. Twenty of Brigham Young's wives arrived at Council Bluffs, Iowa on Tuesday, on a visit to their friends in that city and Omaha. They will come as far east as Washington. The sprouts of the potato contain an alkaloid termed by chemists solanine, which is very poisonous if taken into the system. This does not exist in the tubers, unless they are exposed to the light and air, which sometimes occurs from the accidental removal of the earth in cultivation. A potato that shows a blackish-green tint on one side should never be cooked for the table or fed to stock. A few days since a daughter of a gentleman in Peoria, Ill., swallowed a glass button. It lodged in her throat, and she began to choke and was unable to make known her trouble. Her aunt, who happened to be in the room, saw at once that she was choking and the prompt action was necessary. She seized the little girl by the feet and held her head downwards, directing another child to pound the back of the one she held. The prompt action was successful, the button was removed, and the life of the child saved.

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