

Editorial Items.

WILMINGTON PRESBYTERY.

This body met at Glasgow, Del., on Tuesday evening, April 5th, and remained in session until Thursday. Rev. John W. Mears was chosen Moderator. Revivals were reported in four of the churches, three of them being of unusual power, and resulting in the material strengthening of the several churches. Probably one hundred and twenty members have been added to their numbers. A spirit of enlarged liberality prevails; even the feeble churches showing a very great advance in contributions. A new Mission chapel has been built in Wilmington, at a cost of nearly \$4000. In one of the churches a systematic attempt is making, on the part of dissipated sympathizers, to obtain control of the pulpit and property. Votes have been manufactured by the "packing" of vacant pews to such an extent as to render the result doubtful. The stated supply, a member of the Philadelphia Fourth Presbytery, in good and regular standing, has been working with this faction, much to the surprise and regret of the loyal people. Is not this a case warranting, if not demanding, Presbyterian investigation?

The following questions were over-tured to the next Assembly:

- 1. Who are voters in an election for trustees of a church?
2. Who have power to call a meeting for the election of trustees of a church?
3. Who have power to close and hold possession of a church, the trustees or Session?

Rev. J. Garland Hamner and Elder E. T. Taylor were chosen commissioners to the General Assembly. Milford, Del., was chosen as the next place of meeting, September 28th.

RECOGNITION OF CHAPLAINS.

Every one interested in the moral welfare of the Army will rejoice at the intelligence, that Congress has at length legislated, so as to place chaplains on the same footing, as other commissioned officers. The late enactment provides that their names shall be placed near the surgeons, on the regimental rolls; that they have quarters at hospitals and posts; that their widows and mothers shall be entitled to the same pension received by the relatives of captains; and for similar causes; and also that there shall be a burial service at the funeral of a soldier, and shall be at least one religious service on the Sabbath.

By these provisions, a chaplain is protected from the neglect or insolence of those armed with a little brief authority, and he is made to feel that his profession is recognized as much as the medical by the Government.

Senator Foster in the debate, which took place on the Bill, with much force and practical effect, exhibited the "littleness" that had been practiced upon chaplains, simply because they were unrecognized by the Army Regulations. Under the new law, every faithful chaplain will thank God and take courage.

AN INTERESTING DISCUSSION.

At the monthly meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association, on Monday evening the 28th ult., Rev. Mr. Moore, of the Presbyterian Church, Redwood Street, read an excellent essay on Theodore Parker, which was followed by an animated discussion of his character and influence as a reformer; which is to be continued in another form of treatment, at the next meeting. It will be an occasion of marked interest we think. The question of a semi-monthly religious meeting, with direct reference to more spiritual results, is agitated. The churches should second and sustain such laudable efforts, and pastors of the city, should more frequently drop into these gatherings, and shed the light of encouragement on the enterprise.

WE CALL ATTENTION to the advertisement of Crittenden's Commercial College in another column. This long established institution has never been in so flourishing a condition as under its present management. It had, during the past year, probably a larger number of students in attendance than any other educational establishment in the State—nearly five hundred from different sections of the country, including many from our best business houses, having been entered on its register. For thoroughness of instruction and completeness of its course for business life, it has no superior. The expenses are light and comparatively insignificant, in view of the advantages it offers to those having a business course in view. We can speak from actual experience, having employed in the office of this paper two of the students of Crittenden's Commercial College, who gave great satisfaction and reflected the highest credit on their instructors.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

An important Amendment to the Constitution, the text of which will be found in our news columns, abolishing and excluding slavery in and from the United States and Territories forever, has been passed by the Senate. The measure must also pass the House by a two-thirds vote; and be submitted to the Legislatures of the several States, the assent of three-fourths of whom is necessary to its incorporation into the Constitution.—The prospect of this result is most cheering to the friends of human rights, to those longing and waiting for signs of real progress as a result of the convulsions of the times, and to those who wish our national enactments to correspond with those of the Great Ruler of the Universe.

The scenes which lately transpired in the House of Representatives, show that the friends of oppression and of the overthrow of Republican Government, feel that their time is short. They see that in the passage of such an enactment their career as public men would be forever at an end. So may it be.

KEEPERS OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Marvellous, but not deceiving in the eyes of all true men, is the attitude taken by the faction, who, in the present Congress, oppose and embarrass the Government. We are to believe, from the speeches of these traitors, whom cowardice and the hope of plunder alone keep from open and armed league with the rebellion, that they are the true supporters of the Constitution and the real friends of human liberty! And that those who are directing their energies to the suppression of the rebellion in the speediest and surest manner, are the only anarchists! Shall we not summon Jeff. Davis at once from Richmond, to give us a true rendering of that instrument? Or shall we not resign our very existence as a nation, so that we may meet the quibbles of these precious specimens of loyalty, these pitiful remnants and dregs of a ruined party?

SABBATH RAILROAD PROFANATION.

On the 5th of this month the Committee on City Passenger Railroads agreed to report favorably on a bill allowing the City Passenger Cars to run on the Sabbath. We do not know what efforts are contemplated to meet and counteract this movement, but we greatly fear from the unenviable character our State Legislature has gained by previous railroad action the past winter, that little hope can be cherished of preventing the passage of a measure so plainly detrimental to the best interests, spiritual and temporal, of the community.

REV. D. G. MALLERY, formerly chaplain of the 51st Regt. P. V., but having some months ago resigned, has just been re-elected to the same position, and is now on duty with the 51st, at Annapolis, Md.

A supply of the AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN will be thankfully received by Mr. Mallery, for the regiment. Will some friend place the necessary funds in our hands for this object?

REV. R. PATTERSON, D. D., sailed on Monday, April 4th, from New York for San Francisco, by the steamer Champion, and Rev. George J. Mings on Wednesday, April 13th. Both of these brethren are engaged in the service of the Christian Commission, and expect to labor for it in California. They are warmly recommended for this object by a large number of clergymen.

CIRCULAR, OF THE PASTORAL ASSOCIATION OF THE DEBTS OF FEEBLE CHURCHES.

DEAR SIR:—The undersigned were appointed a Committee to make inquiry in relation to the debts on feeble Churches within the bounds of the Third and Fourth Presbyteries, and to report to the Pastoral Association of Philadelphia the result. They found the following, viz.:

Table with 4 columns: Church Name, Debts, Will raise, Needed. Logan Square Church, \$3000, \$1000, \$2000. Darcy, Second, 3000, 2500, 500. East Whitland, 1200, 1000, 200. Southwestern, 5085, 780, 4305. Kensington, 4000, 1000, 3000. Lombard Street, 3305, 1500, 1800. Marple, 1200, 600, 600.

According to the foregoing statement, the whole amount of indebtedness on these Churches is \$21,991. These Churches will raise of this amount \$8,711, leaving \$13,280 to be raised by the other Churches.

When the Committee made their Report, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee appointed by the Association, address a Circular to the Laymen of our churches, in the City, respectfully requesting them to take into consideration the importance of a united and vigorous effort for the relief of the above named churches. And that the same Circular be sent to our City Pastors, that they may notify their congregations of a meeting to be held in the First Presbyterian Church, Washington Square, on Tuesday, the 19th of April, at a quarter before 8 o'clock, P. M., for this purpose, and urge their attendance.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed by the contemplated meeting, consisting only of Laymen, to take charge of the money subscribed, and that no distribution of money to the churches interested be made until the whole sum required is obtained. But, that when any of these churches shall furnish satisfactory evidence to said Committee that they have raised the amount pledged, and that this, with the sum asked, will cancel every claim on their building and lot, the Committee shall pay said sums to such churches.

The present time seems peculiarly propitious for such a united and vigorous effort. The unwonted liberality of some of our wealthy members, and the deep necessities of some of our feeble churches, give promise of success in this effort, and urge its importance. Most of our churches are now free from pecuniary pressure. May we not hope that ere long every church of our denomination, in this City, will be relieved from the burdens that have long interfered with their prosperity and growth, and embarrassed their Pastors. This can be done. It will be done, if our people have a mind to work for it, according to the ability God has given them. Perhaps this is the only time when such an effort can be successfully made. It will be a joyful day when it is reported that all our struggling churches are released from these burdens. We look forward to the near approach of that day with hope.

Your presence is most earnestly and respectfully requested at the meeting, to take into consideration this matter. This meeting will be held in First Presbyterian Church, Washington Square, on Tuesday, the 19th of April, at a quarter before 8 P. M.

ROBERT ADAIR, JOHN PATTON, Committee of Association.

N. B.—At a meeting of the Pastoral Association, of this City, held December 21, 1863, it was

Resolved, unanimously, "That this Pastoral Association will not be responsible, morally or pecuniarily, to aid in paying the debt of any church, unless they have been consulted relative to the incurring of the liability."

News of the Week.

CONGRESS.

SENATE, April 5.—The Judiciary Committee reported, with amendments, the bill for the collection of taxes in insurrectionary States. The resolution calling on the Secretary of War for information in regard to church property seized was tabled. The joint resolution to amend the Constitution so as to prohibit slavery was then taken up. Mr. Davis' amendment, that no negro, or person whose mother or grandmother is or was a negro, shall be a citizen of the United States was rejected. An amendment that no slave shall be emancipated unless the owner is first paid the value of said slave, was also voted down.

HOUSE.—In the House of Representatives the Committee on Post Roads and Canals reported a bill authorizing the construction of two bridges over the Ohio river, which, after some discussion, was re-committed. The Committee on Ways and Means were instructed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the duty on foreign wool. A resolution directing the Committee on Military Affairs to report the bill increasing the pay of soldiers was referred to that committee. Mr. Rice asked leave of absence for ten days for the Committee on Naval Affairs, in order to visit the West to examine sites for a navy-yard on the Mississippi, but objection was made by several gentlemen, and the request was laid on the table. The National Banking bill was taken up in Committee of the Whole, and was reported with the amendments.

SENATE, April 6.—The bill providing for an Amendment to the Constitution, passed to a third reading.

HOUSE.—The National Bank bill was on motion of Mr. Stevens, laid on the table, 89 to 44.

SENATE, April 7.—On motion of Mr. Doolittle, the bill to aid Indian refugees to return to their homes was taken up. The bill appropriates about \$300,000 for the benefit of the Indians who fled into the frontier States a year ago, from Indian territory, on account of the rebellious position taken by some of the tribes. The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the joint resolution amending the Constitution. Speeches were made by Mr. Hendricks and Mr. Henderson. After Executive session, adjourned.

HOUSE.—The Secretary of War was directed to inform the House how many commissioned officers, with their names and rank, have been dismissed from the military service by authority of the President, without trial by Court-Martial, since the beginning of the present war, and how many such dismissals have been revoked. The House resumed the consideration of the Raritan and Delaware Bay Railroad bill. Mr. Woodbridge argued in favor of the constitutionality and expediency of declaring the roads and boats of that company to be military and post routes. The subject went over. The House then proceeded to the consideration of business relating to the District of Columbia. Several local bills were passed, and one appropriating \$250,000 for the erection of a Penitentiary, Jail, and House of Correction, in the District of Columbia, was discussed. Pending a motion to lay the bill on the table, the House adjourned.

SEC. 1.—Neither Slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, of which the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction. SEC. 2.—Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. This must be passed by the House, signed by the President, and ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States, when will it become a part of the Constitution. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The bill providing for a penitentiary in the District was re-committed. The Senate bill extending the time in which States may avail themselves of grants of land for agricultural and mechanical colleges, was passed with a clause admitting West Virginia to its provision. The President's annual message was taken up, and Mr. Long of Ohio, made a vehement speech on the rebel side. In this speech, as reported, Mr. Long said: "There were only two questions—first, the recognition of the Confederacy, and, second, the continuation of the war on the subjugation of the South. Of the two he preferred the former."

April 9.—The Senate was not in session. HOUSE.—The speaker, Mr. Colfax, called Mr. Rollins, of N. H., to the chair, and as a question of privilege, proposed a preamble and resolutions, calling for the expulsion of Mr. Long for treasonable language. During the course of debate which arose, all the long suppressed venom of the snake faction found vent. Mr. Harris, of Md., having declared full agreement with Long, it was moved that he be expelled and a majority (but not two-thirds) voted for it; he was severely rebuked by a resolution, only eighteen yeas in the negative. Mr. Long's case was postponed on plea that his language had been misrepresented.

SENATE, April 11.—A memorial for a suitable pier at Lewes, Del., was presented. A Report on the battle of Olusted, Fla., was made. The House Naval Bill was considered, and the appropriation for building floating dry-docks at Philadelphia and New York, for the monitors, was struck out.

HOUSE.—Resolved, When it adjourns, to adjourn until Thursday to attend the funeral of Mr. John C. Rives, late editor of the Globe. A preamble and resolution to the effect that the South should not be substituted as a party to the table. The case of Mr. Long was then resumed. The following is the resolution offered by Mr. Colfax: Resolved, That Alexander Long, a Representative from the Second District of Ohio, having on the 8th of April, 1864, declared himself in favor of recognizing the independence and nationality of the so-called Confederacy, now in arms against the Union, and thereby given aid, countenance and encouragement to persons engaged in armed hostility to the United States, is hereby expelled.

During the debate, the prominent organs of the democracy declared that party to be far gone. Stinging speeches were made by Gen. S. P. Bates, Henry W. Davis, Mr. Orth and Mr. Harris, concurring by vote of the House, that "if old General Jackson had been in power, instead of censure only the traitor would be now in Old Capitol Prison." Adjourned at 11.30 P. M., without action.

THE WAR.

Kentucky.—The rebels are showing an exceedingly bold front in the western part of Kentucky. Paducah, on the Ohio at the mouth of the Tennessee river, once a town of 10,000 inhabitants, and intensely disloyal when first occupied by Gen. Grant, in Sept. 1861, was the object of a desperate attack by the rebels under Gen. Forrest, late last month. It was guarded by a fort, held by Col. Hicks with a force of 685 men, 250 of whom were colored. The approach of the enemy was known in time to permit the transportation of the inhabitants to the other side of the river. The gunboats Pat and Pease were moored in a good position, and the rebel advance was arrested by the Union forces. They appeared at one o'clock on March 26th. A correspondent of the Tribune says: "There was no delay in the advance. He rushed his line forward rapidly and steadily, and while at the same time a detachment from the right flank, several hundred strong, dashed into the now deserted city, and down Market street, and the other street lack of it, until, coming within range of the fort, they opened a galling fire from the horses upon the garrison. On they came, with loud cheers that sounded distinctly through the now increasing roar of battle and which were defiantly answered by our men who now, reaching with desperate rapidity their rammers with accelerated force, hurled destruction through the advancing lines. As soon as they came within gun range a terribly destructive fire was opened upon them, and men toppled, reeled, and fell to the ground by scores. Although the overwhelming force continued to close upon the fort it was now evident that there was much disorder among them, and presently a portion of the line gave way, when the whole force broke in confusion and retreated precipitately, leaving the ground strewn with not less than 200 killed and wounded. The discomfited rebels were then reformed upon their original line."

As the smoke began to clear up it was discovered that the city was on fire in several places. The railroad depot was already completely wrapped in flames, having been fired by the rebels. The shelling of the gunboats had dislodged the sharpshooters from the buildings nearest the fort, and their fire was just being directed toward other portions of the town, when a flag of truce was observed coming from the enemy's lines. The flag covered a demand for the unconditional surrender of the fort, with a threat that no quarter would be granted in the event of a forcible capture. Col. Hicks promptly replied that he was sent there to defend the post, and intended to obey, as any honorable officer should. An hour was consumed during this parley, immediately after which the enemy advanced and made a second charge, which only resulted in slaying a couple of hundred more of dead and wounded rebels on the earth, and a disastrous repulse. This by no means satisfied the rebels, and they again advanced, swarmed thicker and thicker in their numbers, and an unintermitting storm of lead was poured from roofs and windows, notwithstanding the houses were being perforated by shot and shell from all our guns. Every gun in the fort was now turned upon the town, while the gunboats took an active part in sweeping the streets and shelling the houses. The enemy finding that our force was not strong enough to risk leaving the works did not re-form his whole several hundred strong into the city, some to burn and pillage and others to resist those who were yet left upon the garrison. Now was the hardest trial our brave fellows had to bear. In spite of the shells that were sent crashing through the buildings, the sharpshooters, who by this time must have numbered nearly 1,000, held their positions or else falling back for a few minutes again came forward and delivered their fire. At length, at nightfall, when the garrison was nearly exhausted, and the ammunition was fast being expended, the rebels would have necessarily been chiefly with the bayonet, the rebels drew off, keeping up a lighter

fire, however, until midnight. The next day the rebels were still in the immediate vicinity and threatened another attack. Col. Hicks burned a number of buildings in his immediate front and having received aid from Cairo, prepared to resist them. But the rebels after some further vain attempts at conference withdrew, having suffered, according to the correspondent, a loss of 1000 killed and wounded. Union loss 14 killed and 42 wounded. The movements of Forrest, since this bold but disastrous attack, are not clear. Much praise should be awarded to the brave Colonel Hicks and his garrison, the colored soldiers of which bore themselves with their usual bravery. Captain Patrick, with but fifteen men, last week surprised sixty rebels, near Quicksand Creek, Ky., killing ten and wounding eleven of the enemy, and capturing all their arms and equipments.

Virginia.—Army Changes.—Major-General P. H. Sheridan is assigned to the Cavalry Corps of the Potomac. The 11th and 12th Corps are to be consolidated, and called the 1st Army Corps, and Major-General Joseph Hooker is assigned to the command. Major-General G. Granger is relieved from the command of the 4th Army Corps, and Major-General O. O. Howard is assigned to it in his stead. Major-General Schofield is assigned to the command of the 3d Army Corps. Major-General Slocum is ordered to report to Major-General Sherman, commanding the Division of the Mississippi, and Major-General Stoneman to the Department of Ohio, for assignment. Major-General Granger is ordered to report to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

About forty rebels recently made an attempt to blow up the Light-house at Cape Lookout. Having placed the keener and his wife under a guard, they proceeded to carry their plan into execution, but ran away at the approach of a United States transport, which they thought to be a Union gun-boat.

Arkansas.—Dates from Fort Smith to April 6th, say that Gen. Steele's army has driven the Rebels from Arkadelphia, and is now advancing on Price in the direction of Camden and Washington. Several hundred Rebels, under Cabell and other commanders, have come in behind our advancing forces, on raiding expeditions. Clarksville, Mo., has been here, was attacked day before yesterday. The enemy was repulsed, with a loss of three killed, 10 prisoners, 20 horses, and all their camp equipments.

A large amount of cotton is reported captured on the Red river, amounting to about three thousand bales. Col. Clayton, commanding at Pine Bluff, advanced with a small force to Mount Elba, on Salem river, where, by stratagem, he captured 326 prisoners, and afterward fought a battle, defeating 1200 of the enemy, with a loss of 100 in killed and wounded. He captured small arms, stores, &c. in great quantity. Loss 15, all told. Gen. Steele was at Arkadelphia on the 28th of March, on his way South.

Louisiana.—The main body of General Franklin's force reached Alexandria, Louisiana, on the 28th ult., without opposition. The country is almost entirely deserted by the whites and the male negroes. Some seventeen cannon have been captured since the expedition reached Red river.

Dates from New Orleans to March the 23th, state that the election for delegates to the Louisiana State Convention resulted in favor of the Free State party by a large majority. The steamer J. H. Russell, with 700 bales of cotton, and a quantity of cattle and hogs, was consumed by fire at night at Plaquemine. The Rebel ram Tennessee was struck by a squall April 1, while lying near Grant's Pass, near Mobile, causing it to keel over and sink. But two feet of her smoke-stack now remains visible. Her armament will prove a heavy loss to the Rebels. It consisted of six 100-pounder rifled Parrotts, and nearly as many pieces.

[This account needs confirmation.] The officers of steamers from Red river report a considerable fight on the 28th ult., 35 miles above Alexandria, on the 23th ult., between Gen. Smith's forces, consisting of 8,000 infantry under Gen. Mower, and Dudley's brigade of Lee's Cavalry Corps, and Dick Taylor's army, estimated to be 12,000 strong, posted in an advantageous position. The fight lasted about three hours. Our loss is reported to be eighteen killed and about sixty wounded; that of the rebels was much greater, some claiming it at two hundred in killed and wounded. We captured five hundred prisoners, and others are still being brought in. Our troops did not halt on the battle-ground, but pushed on in pursuit of the retreating foe.

Tennessee.—The Inquirer's Nashville correspondent, April 11th, says: It is certain at last that the East Tennessee has been abandoned by the rebel troops, and that they have destroyed all the bridges in their hasty evacuation. Seven of Longstreet's Generals have been court-martialed in regard to the failure of the campaign in East Tennessee.

On last Thursday evening there was considerable excitement in Memphis, owing to an attack made by the rebels upon our outer pickets. The Memphis militia were immediately sent to the front. The attack was thought, however, to be a feint made by Forrest to enable him to get safely South with his trains containing the plunder taken at Paducah.

South Carolina.—A party of refugees picked up in a small skiff off Charles harbor say that the rebel rams, which can be plainly discerned on the stocks, on a fair day, from Gregg and our batteries near Cummings Point, are suffering considerably from their fire, which is directed against them whenever the weather is favorable for practice. Our shells have driven the rebel workmen away so frequently that they cannot be induced to work regularly upon them. Several of the ship carpenters have been wounded and the balance are almost panic stricken. The rams themselves have been repeatedly hulled and badly shattered. In fact, at one time it was found impossible to repair damages as fast as injuries were sustained by them. The rams have been obtained, in our shells strike and explode every time, in the immediate neighborhood of the ship yards or in the yards themselves. The fire has had the effect of postponing the launching of the rams, and may effectually prevent it altogether. It will be maintained hereafter.

Recently, our batteries have thrown a few shells daily into the city—just enough to let the rebels know that we are alive on Morris Island, and propose to hold that point. The thirty-pounder Parrot, which has been firing for some time past, finally gave out the other day, at about the four thousand six hundred and some odd round. As it was fired at a high elevation, which is considered the most trying on any gun, the fact that it endured so long proves the value of the invention. The Ward gun is to be tested in the same severe way, and from the experiments some very valuable results will be obtained of interest to ordnance officers and to the world.

Naval.—Early on the morning of the 9th, a torpedo was brought alongside of the frigate Minnesota, lying off Newport News, by the rebels and exploded. The frigate was considerably shaken and damaged, but not as was designed, blown up with all on board. The annual Navy Register for 1864, which is just published at Washington, contains

some very interesting information concerning the present condition and strength of our navy. It appears that we have now 622 vessels of all classes in the navy, 432 of which are war steamers, and 74 iron-clads and rams.

The number of guns of the iron-clad fleet is put down at 325, and the tonnage of the same at 86,474. In March, 1861, there were but 42 naval vessels in commission, and now we have nearly double this number of iron-clads alone. This exhibit shows that the increase of our Navy has been the most remarkable of any nation on record, and when we consider that it has been created in time of war, the interest is enhanced. Of the iron-clad fleet 27 vessels are afloat and 47 launched, nearly all of which will be speedily launched. From the official reports up to February 1st, 1863, we find that England had 5 iron-plate vessels afloat and 6 building, and France had one afloat.

The present naval force is divided into nine squadrons, as follows:—The North Atlantic, the South Atlantic, the East of the West Gulf, the Mississippi, the Special India, the Pacific, the East India and Mediterranean, and the Potomac Flotilla. Seven vessels of the Navy are detached and assigned to special service.

GENERAL NEWS.

A decision in the District Court in this city was rendered on Saturday, which sustains the validity of the legal tender of "greenbacks." This is a very interesting question, and it has, from time to time, been before the Courts, not only this State but in New York and other States. Various decisions have been rendered. Sometimes we find the law making the Treasury notes legal tenders, as expressed on their face, sustained, and then again a contrary view is entertained, and, perhaps, in the opinion of all the Judges, been entirely harmonious in the cases brought before them. Those who oppose the legal tender quality of the Treasury notes appear to base their opposition on the ground that the law making them a legal tender is unconstitutional, as impairing the obligation of contracts previously made. This is a question of deep national concern, as we now have almost exclusively the Government paper issues as the circulating currency of the country. It would appear in this view, that the Government ought to sustain the Government notes. All the loyal people of the North are mutually interested in the success of the Government, and its present financial system is a necessary part of the means to accomplish that object. Treasury notes have been made a legal tender by law to meet the present situation of our national affairs among our own people, and the refusal to receive them as such is only to that extent a disposition to disavow the authority of Congress to make laws for the support of the Government.

Secretary Stanton has transmitted to the Senate a report from A. A. General Townsend relating to the nine months' militia and volunteers, called out in 1862, which says that the number raised and received into service, under the act of July 17, 1862, was 18,884 nine months' volunteers, 61,205 nine months' militia. \$25,000 in bounty has been paid to all volunteers accepted under said act.

A terrible storm raged in Baltimore during Saturday. The tide rose from three to five feet higher than usual. The "Seaman's Bethel" was sunken during the storm.

President Lincoln has commuted to imprisonment in Fort Delaware during the war, three rebel spies who had been condemned to hang.

A spurious ten dollar note was circulated on Saturday. It was neatly executed and well calculated to deceive. It was on the Citizens' Bank of Massachusetts.

The iron-clad frigate Ironsides has fired since she has been in service four thousand three hundred and sixty-one rounds; has been hit two hundred and forty-one times; has had only one man killed; has not been seriously injured, and is probably the best iron-clad vessel in the world.

An expedition recently sent up the Chickahominy river by Gen. Butler, was successful in penetrating to within fifteen miles of the rebel capital.

John C. Rives, proprietor of the Washington Globe, died in that city on Sabbath morning, at the age of sixty-nine. He was for a while clerk in the Fourth Auditor's office of the Treasury Department, and subsequently a clerk in Duff Green's Telegraph establishment; but early in General Jackson's administration he founded, with Mr. Blair, the Globe. Soon after the sale of that paper to Mr. Ritchie in 1845, he re-established the Globe as a journal of Congressional proceedings, and it is now considered the official record of debate in the House of Representatives. The Brigadier-General Smith was at the siege of Vicksburg;—John E., Third Division, Fifteenth Corps; Andrew J., of the Thirtieth Corps, now up the Red River; William Sooy, Fourth Division, Fifteenth Corps; Thomas Kilby, now at Natchez, and Morgan L., Second Division, Fifteenth Corps.

A private letter states that the people of California are suffering at present from drought. Eight thousand sheep and eight thousand beehives have died, and the farmers are killing the cattle for their hides and fat. This drought will prove most disastrous to the farming and hydraulic mining interests of that State.

A patriotic lady in New York bought the one dollar "greenback" which had been pierced by bullets and afterwards taken from the dead body of a Union soldier. The mother of the soldier sent it to the Fair, and the purchaser paid the handsome sum of one hundred dollars for it.

A large bridge over the Northern Central Railroad, near York, Pa., was swept away by the flood of Saturday. The freshet has been very severe in many places, but the damage is not so severe as at first apprehended.

Admiral Farragut reports the capture of the schooner Marion, bound to Havana, with an assorted cargo.

Gold closed on Monday at 172. It is thought that the bill to remove the seat of Government from Harrisburg to Philadelphia, which has passed the State Senate by a large majority, will also pass the House, when the subject comes up on Thursday.

Maryland has just voted, April 6th, for a Convention, to consider the question of emancipation. A majority of the delegates elected are said to favor immediate and unconditional emancipation. The subscription to the 10-40 loan amounts, April 8th, to ten millions. New York subscriptions on April 9th were \$1,044,000.

The Rhode Island gubernatorial election, held April 6th, resulted in the re-election of James G. Smith, Union national candidate, over the combined Democrat and Independent Union votes. The Connecticut gubernatorial and Ohio local elections, held last week, resulted in decided Union victories and gain.

A terrible boiler explosion occurred in the foundry and machine shop of Merrick & Sons, on Washington street, in this city, on Wednesday, April 8th. Seven persons were killed or died soon after. The engineer was killed outright. The boiler was blown. The Hartford City Election, April 11, resulted in a decisive Union victory.