

LETTER FROM DR. DUFFIELD.

DEAR BROTHER MEARS:—Will you give me a little space in your columns, to tell my dear brethren of the ministry and membership of the body of Christ, some of the great things our blessed Redeemer has done, and is doing, in our city? For years a few praying persons, of different denominations, have held a daily morning prayer-meeting, and have persevered in their supplications to God, since the effusion of His Spirit in that great year of His gracious visitation, 1858. I believed then, and said, that the Lord Christ was taking out from among the nation a people for the glory of His name; and I rejoiced in that glorious work you had in your goodly city, where first, in the days of my boyhood, I found Christ precious to my soul. I was fully convinced that it was a sealing time, and that the Lord was preparing many for a day of coming trouble. The anticipation has been proved to have been just and true.

The ministry and Christian people in this city were, at that time, drawn into closer union than they were ever before. The former, especially those of the Methodist, Baptist, and of the various branches of Presbyterians, and of the Congregationalists, have, with occasional brief interruptions, maintained a weekly meeting for fraternal intercourse, prayer, and religious conference. For some months past, there has been a growing interest on the subject of religion in this city. A weekly union prayer-meeting has circulated among our churches. The Lord's presence has been felt among them.

On Sabbath, the 26th ult., Brother E. P. Hammond who had been invited here by gentlemen especially interested for the salvation of the numerous youths in our Sabbath schools, commenced labors among them in a general meeting of the children in the Congregational church, held on the afternoon of that day. After that, daily meetings were held in the afternoon, about the time of closing the public schools, and at night a prayer-meeting of ministers and members of the different churches. They were continued in rotation during that week, in the Baptist, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches. From the very first the presence and power of the Spirit were felt. Religious services have also been held in the public prison, or house of correction, and among the seven hundred sick and wounded soldiers in the Harper Hospital, with like tokens.

On Sabbath evening last, the Young Men's Hall, which, through the week, had been occupied for theatrical purposes, was densely crowded, some 2,500 persons entering, many of them, and old, and young, and within the scenes, which had to be thrown open by raising the curtain. The services were especially for the benefit of the young men. It was a solemn and interesting meeting. Hundreds were brought under the power of the truth, and gave manifestations of the fact, some in the joy of their hearts, which had embraced the Lord, and others by asking for prayers of Christians, and inquiring what they should do to be saved.

On Monday, Tuesday, and this day, (Wednesday) meetings were held, by general consent and announcement of the committee, in the First Presbyterian Church, situated near the centre of the city—the afternoon being appropriated for the children, and the night for the young men of our city. That large and commodious edifice was filled as densely as could be packed. All the dear brethren of the ministry, of the denominations above mentioned, and Christians from all the churches, have entered into and cooperated in this blessed work. We have occasion for great gratitude and joy, in witnessing the numbers that have believed, as we doubt not, to the saving of the soul.

The work is still advancing in interest and power. What makes it more noticeable is, that the work openly manifested itself during the week appropriated for the celebration of a Ladies State Fair for the benefit of the Freedmen, which has, comprising numbers of our large public halls, comprising numerous strangers from many of our interior towns and villages. The doors of the Bazaar were closed on Saturday last, March 4th, for traffic, and the hour from twelve to one was set apart for prayer, Christian people of every class, color, and sect, assembling together to invoke God's blessing on the President of the United States. A business men's meeting was held at the same hour, in another apartment of the same building, for like purpose. The interests of our country and of religion, humanity, and business were to give for a season, as they were commended to God for blessing. Numerous soldiers have attended the meetings, and are among those who have begun to seek the Lord. I am reminded of the glorious revival scenes of 1851, which I witnessed then, especially in Cumberland and Franklin counties in Pennsylvania, which then prevailed all over our country. We have had a baptism of blood, during these late years of horrible warfare, precipitated upon us by the madness of rebellion. But God has been in our armies, and in our navy, with our soldiers and sailors; and now, in the closing up of our successes, He is marching forth victoriously in the churches, doing His great and mighty works, for the salvation of men.

I thank and praise Him, and take courage for the future, now that He is leading by His Spirit the rising generation. I have time to add no more, except to say that, should the Lord employ His dear servant, brother Hammond, in your city, I hope the way will be prepared and that my dear brethren Barnes and Brainerd, and all the ministry of your city will bid him God speed, and co-operate in the work of the Lord. "It is not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord." God employs and owns the simple preaching of the great radical truths and facts of the gospel, and makes them the sword of His Spirit. I bless Him for the manifestations He is making through this dear beloved brother, of the melting and subduing power of the simple story of the cross. "Christ and Him crucified," and the dear Redeemer, with patience and love, are the themes presented and preached from day to day, in a plain and affectionate manner. I trust that much prayer will be made in your city, and throughout all our land, for a mighty and marvellous work of His Spirit, to save our country and the souls of men.

Yours, &c., GEO. DUFFIELD.

REVIVALS.—Our Methodist exchanges have numerous accounts of revivals. The advocates. (Advocate is a sort of family name for the Methodist papers,) in Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis, together foot up in one week about 2,000, accessions to the western churches. As however the same revival is often noticed in each of the papers, many of the figures which make this sum total are twice or thrice counted. Still the work has been extensive—in part remains so. "Francis" there is a religious prosperity. Seventy have joined the Howard Street church on probation. There are daily meetings, with promise of blessed fruit, at Powell Street. The Central church is growing.

News of the Week.

U. S. SENATE. The Senate convened, according to custom, immediately after the inauguration, by special call of the President, has continued in session to the present time. As it has no power, without the presence of the other house, to mature any legislation, it has but a small range of business outside of that for which it is more especially called together—the acting upon Executive nominations. Large numbers of the latter have been confirmed, the most important of which are Hon. Hugh McCulloch of Indiana, as Secretary of the Treasury, in place of Mr. Fessenden, who returns to the Senate, and Hon. James Harlan, of Iowa, as Secretary of the Interior, in place of Judge Usher. These are the only changes thus far made in the Cabinet.

Of other matters of Senatorial action, the most important is the settling of the presidential election of 1860. The act of secession, have lost their right to representation in Congress, until Congress itself, by special legislation, shall open the door for them. The action was taken on the 9th inst., on the report of the Judiciary Committee on the credentials of Mr. Snow, Senator elect from Arkansas. The committee say that in 1861 the seceded States of the State of Arkansas, and that in pursuance of a law of Congress, the President, by proclamation, declared the inhabitants of that State to be included in the insurrection. Therefore the committee recommend that the questions of admission be postponed until the next session, and until Congress shall take action in regard to the existing States of Arkansas. The report was adopted. Credentials from Virginia and Louisiana afterward took the same direction.

The Senate, on the 9th inst., elected Rev. Dr. Gray, a Baptist clergyman of Washington, Chaplain. In the election of Standing Committees, Senator Saulsbury, of Delaware, and Senator McDougal, of California, were entirely dropped. It is understood that the personal habits of both these Senators have become such as to unfit them for any service of the kind. The Senate adjourned sine die on the 11th inst.

THE WAR.

THE CAPTURE OF GEORGETOWN, S. C., by order of Admiral Dahlgren, is the principal event for record last week. Georgetown is on the Waccamaw river, a few miles above its mouth, and some distance up the coast from Charleston. The capture took place Feb'y 23rd, and was bloodless, the rebel forces abandoning Battery White, its main defence, and the municipal authorities tendering their submission to the Union. The admiral has issued orders for the maintenance of the authority of the United States in Georgetown. He first says: "Conformably to the laws of the United States, slavery no longer exists within the limits of the Union. Persons residing here, who thus become freemen, will in future enjoy the fruits of their own labor."

A DEMONSTRATION AGAINST MOBILE is evidently determined upon. General Canby, with his staff, left New Orleans for that vicinity, on the 1st inst. Acting Rear Admiral Thatcher had arrived the previous day, and assumed command of the squadron, leaving Commodore Palmer in the naval command at New Orleans. A rebel despatch, dated February 25th, says that twenty-two steamers and six Mississippi river steamers were in the lower bay below Mobile, and a large number of troops were on Dauphin Island and at Pensacola, indicating an early attack on the city.

SHERIDAN'S VICTORY, announced in our last, was achieved near Waynesboro, instead of Charlottesville, as they reported. Waynesboro is on the Virginia Central Railroad, at the west base of the Blue Ridge, about fifteen miles from Staunton, and twenty-five from Charlottesville. The statements of deserters respecting its magnitude were, in the main, correct, except that the person of Early was not included in the captures. These last were 1,300 men, more than forty of whom are rebel officers, all of whom have arrived North. Eight cannon and over one hundred wagons were also taken. It is supposed that Sheridan's next move will be for the destruction of the canal between Richmond and Lynchburg.

REBEL NEWS.

INTERNAL DISSENSION is adding its agency to external calamities for the destruction of the rebel combination to which its getters-up gave the name of Government. The debates of its Congress, and the tirades of the press, are violent. The mutual hate has become deadly. We have room for only a single specimen—a short extract from a long editorial, all in the same spirit, from the Richmond Enquirer, in reply to a correspondent. "Our correspondent Brigade," says the Enquirer, "asks us some most pertinent and important questions, some of which we cannot answer for want of information. "That there is a party of 'whipped seceders' in and about Richmond cannot be denied. They are cowed and cowardly, miserable wretches, who brought the war upon the country, and who would now surrender to the enemy. We have no doubt but that there was a plan on foot to force Mr. Davis to resign, and that Mr. Stephens had consented to it, so that Mr. Hunter, as President of the Senate, would become President. The plan, we hope and believe, has miscarried; at any rate, the 'conspirators' may understand that if they should succeed they will have placed

—a barren sceptre in their gripe. Hence to be wrenched with an unalike hand, No son of their's succeeding." "Robert B. Lee, by and with the advice and consent of the army and the people, will grasp the sceptre they may wrench from the hands of Mr. Davis, and wield it for the safety and security of his country's liberty and independence. No cabal of 'whipped seceders' shall capitulate this country into slavery and crouch it at the footstool of Mr. Lincoln. "The Congress has utterly failed; it is incompetent and doing much injury; it has neither capacity nor courage; it is wanting in firmness and resolution; it is unfit for revolution. The very men who were the foremost to secede are the first to surrender. A single head and a single arm are now needed, and if the Congress would consult its patriotism, it would entrust all power with the President and General Lee, adjourn and go home, and leave the country and the cause in the hands of those two men. The President has exhibited a calm, firm, resolute purpose, unsubdued by disaster, and unalterable in the determination to secure the liberty and independence of his country. General Lee! his very port and mien would laugh to scorn the cowardly suggestions of surrender. Upon these two men the country relies—her armies have resolved her liberty to secure, and the people will support and sustain them. The Virginia banks can furnish one or two million in gold, and this will secure the supplies now needed. Let the Legislature promptly act, and turn over the gold to General Lee. The Congress is defunct, the country no longer looks to it for any aid in the struggle. The negroes have been withheld until it is now

nearly too late; the currency is beyond their power to help; the time they have wasted is thrown away, and cannot be regained—the sooner they adjourn and go home, the better."

ARMING THE SLAVES.—The rebel Senate has re-opened this, now the "vexed question" of the Confederacy. In fact the South seems to have assumed the monopoly of "nigger on the brain." The State legislatures are pitching in, that of Virginia having instructed her Senators and Representatives to vote for liberating and arming, and that of North Carolina having gone vehemently against it. The excitement is high—one party seeing nothing but death to the Confederacy, if it is not done, and the other beholding certain ruin if the measure should be adopted. We presume both sides are right.

LATER.—The rebel Senate has finally, by a majority of one vote, passed the bill for arming the slaves. It had previously passed the lower house.

A SUCCESSFUL UNION RAID up the Rappahannock, came off on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of the present month. The fleet consisted of thirteen transports and two gunboats, with 1,500 men from Fortress Monroe, and was in command of Gen. Roberts. It returned to Fortress Monroe on the evening of the 7th, having fully accomplished the object of its mission. All the steamers of the fleet went clear up the Rappahannock river, and landed at the very wharves of Fredericksburgh, without any resistance being made, and without a rebel shot of any kind being seen. Eleven hundred boxes of tobacco and a large railroad bridge, with a great amount of stores, destined for Richmond, were destroyed. The tobacco was stored in Fredericksburgh, preparatory, it is said, to its being shipped to Nassau by means of an English blockade-runner. The expedition brought with it six hundred of the boxes of tobacco, and burnt the remaining five hundred boxes, and captured about one hundred prisoners.

A REBEL VICTORY REPORTED.—General Lee, under date of March 9th, reported to the rebel war department as follows:—"General Bragg reports that he attacked the enemy yesterday, four miles in front of Kingston, and drove him from his position. He disputed the ground obstinately, and took up a new line three miles from his first. We captured three pieces of artillery and 1,500 prisoners. The number of the enemy's dead and wounded left on the field is large; ours is comparatively small. The troops behaved most handsomely, and Major-general Hill and Hoke exhibited their usual zeal and energy."

WHOLESALE DESERTION FROM THE REBEL ARMY.—A. Newbern, N. C., despatch of March 6th, says:—"Yesterday, Company B, 6th North Carolina Confederate Cavalry, raised in the western part of the State, came into our lines in a body, with two lieutenants, horses and equipments, numbering over fifty men, and delivered themselves up to our commanding officer, at Camp Palmer. After partaking of a bountiful feast they, with the old flag at the head of their column, entered the city, the hospitality of which they now enjoy. When they were informed that they would receive pay for their horses and arms, and would be furnished employment or be allowed to go North, they remarked that if we were generally known in the South that such a reception awaited the Confederate soldiers in our lines, the entire army of the Confederacy would follow their example. The arrival of the remainder of this regiment within our lines is daily looked for. They say that Kingston is being evacuated, and that the South Carolina troops are the first to give up, and acknowledge that the South is whipped."

THE CITY.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR 1864.—The annual report of the Board of Health, made on the 14th inst., gives the following summary for the last year: marriages, 6752, an increase of 23 per cent. over the previous year; births, 15,391, a fraction less than 2 per cent. increase; deaths, 17,582, a little more than 11 per cent. increase. The highest monthly return of marriages was in February, when 694 were reported; of births in January, 1449; of deaths in August, 1956.

LEBEL SUTAN VERDICT.—Howell Evans, sole Ruling Elder in the Arch Street Presbyterian Church has obtained a verdict of \$500 against the publishers of the Sunday Dispatch for an article reflecting upon his integrity in the matter of collections of money for general objects in said church.

The young ladies of the Westcoast Grammar School, under the superintendence of Miss Mary Moyn, have appropriated one hundred dollars of a fund which they had raised among themselves for the purpose of improving the comforts of the school-room, for the relief of the sufferers by the late fire.

SUSPENSION OF THE HABEAS CORPUS BY THE PRESIDENT.—The Supreme Court of the District of Columbia has decided that the President has the right to suspend the habeas corpus in any specific case during the rebellion. Judge Olin says: "To hold that after the United States of the Federal Union had assured their allegiance to the government and organized an armed rebellion for its dismemberment and overthrow, that the only power conferred by the Constitution and laws upon the President was to act as an assistant of the United States Marshal heading a posse comitatus in an attempt to serve a legal process, would seem to require neither comment or answer." The case is to be carried to the United States Court.

IMMENSE SALE OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN DRY GOODS IN PHILADELPHIA.—DROPLINE IN PRICES.—On Thursday of last week, the largest sale of foreign and domestic dry goods ever held in this country, amounting to \$1,500,000, took place at the auction store of John B. Myers & Co., in this city. The sale comprised over three thousand original packages, consisting of muslins, drillings, cambrics, linen checks, prims, gingham, creeds, cloths, cassimeres, flannels, merinos, linens, balmorals, and steel spring skirts, cloths, stockings, &c. The prices realized were lower than those obtained at any previous sale for many months heretofore, but came up to what was expected. The attendance was large, and bidders from New York, Boston, and many Southern and Western cities and towns were present. The immense establishment of Messrs. Myers was occupied from the first to the fourth floor with the goods on display. The bidding was spirited and duplicates sold freely.

TERRIBLE RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—On the morning of the 6th inst., about two o'clock, a most fearful railroad disaster occurred in the town of Bristol, a few miles east from our city, in which several lives were lost, and some fifty persons more or less injured. Nearly all of them were soldiers, recently released from the Libby prison, and after months and in some cases years of suffering of the well-known horrors of that captivity, furloughed and on their way to visit their homes. The particulars of the occurrence are these:—Adams' Through Express Train, from Washington, which passes through this city about midnight, got off the track at Shamony Station, a short distance this side of Bristol, and remained off the track until the "Owl Line," which left the Kensington Depot at 12 o'clock A. M., arrived. The pot at 12 o'clock A. M., arrived. The Owl train pushed the Express train towards Bristol. The Express passenger train from Washington was, at this time, within 30 minutes of these two trains, and therefore the conductor of the Owl Line instructed the station man at Shamony to put out a red

signal, and stop the Express line, and inform the conductor of what was going on ahead, so that he might go into Bristol at a very low rate of speed. It is alleged by the conductor of the express train, that no red light was out, but that on the contrary a yellow one was displayed when he reached Shamony, and therefore the speed of the train was kept up until reaching the curve at Bristol bridge. Here the velocity was about seven miles an hour, and the red light on the rear car of the owl train was not discovered, owing to the curve, until the distance was too short to prevent a collision. When the locomotive of the express train struck the last car of the owl line was pushed through the car next, and then the locomotive itself crushed its way through both of the broken cars, and was only stopped after demolishing the platform of the third car from the end. All the passengers in the two demolished cars were soldiers, and they were swept, in a second of time, with the seats to the upper end of the second car, and so tightly were they wedged together, that axes had to be used to relieve the dead and wounded from the wreck. To add to the horror and excitement of the scene, the broken cars took fire from the stove, but by the timely assistance of the citizens with buckets of water, the flames were extinguished before any one was seriously burned. Thus far we hear of eight who were either killed outright, or have since died of their injuries. In the present case we presume it is not audacious to say that somebody is to blame, but it is not likely we shall ever know who. Rail road companies have pretty much ceased to be accountable for anything they may do, or railroad murders to be recognized in law.

LATEST.—TUESDAY.

SHERIDAN'S LAST RIDE.—General Sheridan sends a despatch, dated Columbia (on the James river, only 52 miles west of Richmond,) in which he announces the capture of Charlottesville, the destruction of railroad bridges and railroads in the direction of Richmond, Gordonsville, and Lynchburg, from C.; the destruction of locks, dams, and the canal bank on the James river, up to within 15 miles of Lynchburg; the capture of 14 cannon, and twelve canal boats, loaded with supplies, and the destruction of factories, mills, and merchandise of service to the rebels. Immense railroad bridges, some of them 500 feet in length, were destroyed on the Lynchburg road.

The work was done amid mud and storms of the most trying character. The inhabitants were thoroughly taken by surprise at the appearance of the great victor in this remote and hitherto unvisited section of the rebellion.

SCHOFFIELD.

The rebel Bragg had a story of the defeat of Gen. Schoffield near Kingston, N. C. Gen. Schoffield sends a despatch, dated March 10th, in which he says:—"The enemy made a heavy attack upon our centre and left to-day, but was decisively repulsed and with heavy loss. His dead and badly wounded were left upon the field. We also took several hundred prisoners. Our loss is small." The rebels also claim to have whipped Kilpatrick in South Carolina. We don't believe he stayed whipped any more than Schoffield. Our lines, on the 10th, were three miles from Kingston, where the rebels are said to be in force.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.—The Legislatures of the following States have ratified the amendment:

- 1. Illinois, Feb. 1. 10. Missouri, Feb. 7.
2. Rhode Island, Feb. 2. 11. Ohio, Feb. 8.
3. Maryland, Feb. 3. 12. Minnesota, Feb. 8.
4. New York, Feb. 3. 13. Kansas, Feb. 8.
5. Pennsylvania, Feb. 3. 14. Virginia, Feb. 9.
6. West Virginia, Feb. 3. 15. Indiana, Feb. 9.
7. Massachusetts, Feb. 3. 16. Nevada, Feb. 16.
8. West Virginia, Feb. 3. 17. Louisiana, Feb. 17.
9. Maine, Feb. 3. 18. Wisconsin, Feb. 24.
19. Vermont, March 3.

The Legislatures of the following States have rejected the amendment:

- 1. Delaware, Feb. 8. 3. New Jersey, March 1.
2. Kentucky, Feb. 23.

The Legislatures of the following loyal States have yet to vote upon the amendment:

- Alabama, Feb. 1.
California, Feb. 1.
Florida, Feb. 1.
Georgia, Feb. 1.
Louisiana, Feb. 1.
Mississippi, Feb. 1.
North Carolina, Feb. 1.
Texas, Feb. 1.
Virginia, Feb. 1.
Washington, Feb. 1.
Wisconsin, Feb. 1.
Wyoming, Feb. 1.

ROMANCE OF THE WAR.

A young lady, an orphan, living and teaching school in Huntingdon County, a year ago received a letter from a soldier, stating that her brother, who was a volunteer in the Union army, had been killed in battle. She hastened to the South, secured his remains, had them brought home and buried. Ever since, alone in the world and in sadness, she has mourned her dead kinsman. A week ago she received a letter from Andersonville, from her brother, who is alive and a prisoner.

National Loans.

U. S. 7-30 LOAN.

By authority of the Secretary of the Treasury, the undersigned has assumed the General Subscription Agency for the sale of United States Notes, bearing seven and three-tenths per cent. interest, per annum, known as the

SEVEN-THIRTY LOAN.

These Notes are issued under date of August 15th, 1864, and are payable three years from date of issue, in currency, or are convertible at the option of the holder into

U. S. 5-20 Six per cent. GOLD-BEARING BONDS.

These bonds are now worth a premium of nine per cent., including gold interest from Nov., which makes them at present worth 107 per cent. on the face, including interest, about ten per cent. per annum, besides its exemption from State and municipal taxation, which are as high as in any other market. The interest is to be paid semi-annually by coupons, attached to each note, which may be cut off and sold to any bank or banker.

The interest amounts to

Table with 2 columns: Amount, Interest. Rows: One cent per day on a \$50 note, Two cents " " " \$100, Ten " " " \$500, Twenty " " " \$1000, Fifty " " " \$5000.

Notes of all the denominations named will be promptly furnished on receipt of subscriptions. This is

THE ONLY LOAN IN MARKET

now offered by the Government, and it is confidently expected that its superior advantages will make it the GREAT POPULAR LOAN OF THE PEOPLE. Less than \$50,000,000 remain unsold, which will probably be disposed of within the next 14 days, when the notes will undoubtedly command a premium, as has uniformly been the case on closing the subscription. In order that citizens of every town and sections of the country may be afforded facilities for taking the loan, the United States Bank, State Bank and Private Bankers throughout the country have generally been selected as agents, and will be responsible for the delivery of the notes for which they receive orders.

JAY COOKE,

982-3rd SUBSCRIPTION AGENT, Philadelphia.

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EYRE & LANDELL, Fourth and Arch, ESTABLISHED IN 1840. 1865.—CARD FOR NEW YEAR.—1865.

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During late years the public have been misled by large bottles, pretending to give a quart of Extract of Sarsaparilla for one dollar. Most of these have frauds upon the sick, for they not only contain little, if any, sarsaparilla, but often no curative properties whatever. Hence bitter disappointment has resulted from the use of the various extracts of sarsaparilla which flood the market, until the name itself has become synonymous with imposition and fraud. We think we have ground for believing it has virtues which are irresistible by the ordinary run of the diseases it is intended to cure. We can only assure the sick, that we offer them the best alternative which we know how to produce, and we have reason to believe it is by far the most effectual purifier of the blood yet discovered by anybody.

AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL is so universally known to surpass every other remedy for the cure of Coughs, Colds, Influenza, Hoarseness, Croup, Bronchitis, Incipient Consumption, and for the relief of consumptive patients in advanced stages of the disease, that it is useless here to recount the evidence of its virtues. The world knows them.

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