VOL. 5, No. 23.

THE BEDFORD GAZETTE BLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING BY BY B. F. VENERS,

iollowing terms, to wit: O per annum, cash, in advance \$1.50 per annum, cash, in advance.
\$2.00 " if prid within the year.
\$2.50 " if not paid within the year.
No subscription taken for less than six months.
Who paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid, unless at the option of the publisher. It has been decided by the United States Courts that the stoppage of a newspaper without the payment of arrearages, is prima facia evidence of fraud and of arrearages, is prima facie evidence of fraud and

is a criminal offence.

The courts have decided that persons are ac-

Original Poetrn.

HAPPINESS

BY. DR. C. N. HICKOK. I've found the gem, (1 joyous cried, As earthly happiness I tried.)

See! here alone

'T's found! But, ere a voice replied, 'Twas gone.

I sought it still ; -- In Fashion's maze, The phantom chas'd with egger gaze,

Where'er it led. I grasp'd it; but, its treach'rous blaz

Had fled.

Prepared b treasure, when the mo

I then in Learning's mystic train Pursued my search, but sought itrain Her feeble light Served but to render doubly plain, The night.

Unsated still, my spirit burn'd; To Bacchus' boasted fount I turned, To lave it there. But found (with every longing spured

I next, Ambition's path pursued;

To win the goal; But fill'd with treach'ry, crime and t

I compass'd Nature, far and near; On mountain wild, in desert drear. Mid polar snows, on burning sands, And charming scenes of fairy lands;-Travers'd the trackless ocean o'er,

Stood on Italia's classic shore Sport mid the trees, the livelong day; Where pearls lie hid, in golden sands : Wander'd mid ruin'd piles, and read Drank at the well of Science; knelt At Beauty's shrine: with Power dwelt With Reason on Farev's wing, Flew to the most echoing

Or schoing spheres," and raptur'd, hear The music of the seraph world :-Scann'd the whole realm, earth, sea and s Div'd to the deepest mystery; Quaff'd every cup, that wealth could buy, In hope to find

Some precious gem, to satisfy The mind.

Twas all in vain :- Each hour that pass'd More darkly lower'd than the last; And over all

My longings, Disappointment cast Her pall.

Oh! where can peace be found? I cried For it, I'd give all else beside-Bear shame and loss.

'Tis with (a "still small voice" replied

Have pass'd away, and not one heart is left, To beat in unison with mine. Wealth too

Pas taken wings, and disappear'd; and now

as taken wings, and discounting, it beloss bear
A pauper's late. The proud has by in scoa, And loathing shun the wayside Legar's rag.

The good look on in pity, and best quarters. Their charity, but little do they kno How bless'd I am :- Ah! little do What founts of joy spring up wit hey dream

ey little think, that more than all their wealth Could buy, is mine-l'm richer than they sil-My mansion, lies far out of mortal sight; My treasures, are where thief can never steal, Nor moth corrupt. My joys, the fleeting world an neither give nor take away. I have No fear; all, all is saie, a thin a handas Of Him, who doth all well. I have no care For all my care, is sweetly cast, on Him Who careth for me. I hunger not; for wha My scanty crust is gone, my faith looks up, And I am fed with angel's food. And when At night, I lay me down, upon the cold, Damp ground, or, in some broken shed I see For rest, the curtains of His love, are draw Around me, and my soul is warm, for in My heart is kindled up, a ray of Heaven.

And when a few more days have flows And the last ling'ring sand is gone, He will be nigh; How blessed then, to lay me down And die.

BEDFORD, PA., FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 10, 1862.

ASTOUNDING DISCLOSURES !! How the Republicans Reform. THE WAY GOVERNMENT IS PLUN-DERED!!

Report of Congressional Investigating Committee.

Washington, Dec. 17 .- Van Wyck's Select Committee to inquire into Government Concountable for the subscription price of newspapers, if they take them from the post office, whether they subscribe for them, or not.

Committee to inquire into Government Contracts, made a report to the House of Representatives to-day of their progress. It was pretatives to-day of their progress. It was presented by Mr. Washburne of Illinois.

The labors of the Committee are far from

being closed. A large number of transactions at Washington and elsewhere seem to deserve their attention, and with the approbation of the House, the Committee proposes to vigorously prosecute their investigation, so long as it may appear they are demanded by the public inter-

THE STEAMER CATALINE CASE.

Among the first subjects investigated was the charter of the steamer Cataline. She was chartered by Col. D. D. Tompkins, Assistant Quarter Master-General of New York, under an order from Gup. Wool.

The contract with the Government is not remarkable for disinterestedness in promoting the itself is justfy National welfare; yet the Government will certainly be satisfied with ordinary fairness and call this con integrity in contracts made on its behalf, even supply such a a willingness to seize upon the public misfrom the le fortunes for personal aggrandizement is manifest.

And we this in the transactions. While the Republic has a has virtues a right to expect it, it cannot compel the unselry run of the fish devotion of the citizens.

The provision that the Government shall pay \$20,000 for a vessel just purchased for \$14,000, in the event of her loss, by a peril not covered by the insurance, is totally indefensible. But the main provision of the contract, while un-

doubtedly exorbitant, is less to be condemned.
The Government was to pay \$10,000 per month for the vessel, and that, too, for a period of not ress than three months. Col. Tompkins seems o have paid no attention to the time for which he vessel was chartered. The order of Gen. Wool is silent on the subject. The presence of

Navy and Mr. Morgan, for purchasing vessels etensible and reprehensible.

That arrangement is a system of commission,

THE PURCHASE OF ARMS.

committee nx! devoted themselves to of the purhase of arms. The exdemand forthem, resulting from the to overthro the Union, has resultaordinary expeditures, and, exciting cipicy of large numbers of persons both a Euopand America, ias opened up a system of unrecedented speniation. The Goverumen he been the victor of more than one conspiray, and remarkable ombinations have Seen forects rob the Treary.

The plat from the sale carms to the Go-

The cross.

Ab! there I found it, and though years have sown, And with them, borne earth's hopes, and joye away, treason.

The system dopted at an earl moment fo the purchase of tens naturally engraged this result. The Gornment and the setal States, entering the much in active and ect compublic morals.

to have authorized the several States, anto allow a fair mercantile profit to the contrar have recognized the right in the Generals co. Messrs. L. B. & Co. manding the sever! divisions in the army, purchase arms, to be paid for by the Gener Government, createg an unwise and rumous true copy: competition against itself, without increasing H. W. G. CLEMENTS, Chief Clerk.

the number of arms in the market. Major Morgan, anordinance officer, who was

testified as follows:-"The agents of Fremont, of the Governors of States, of Cities, of Union Defence Committees, of Colonels of Regiments, and of Generals quistons" as "a fair mercantile profit" may of our Army, are all here in New York. 1 be juzzed of by the testimony of Mr. James P. may be in treaty for arms, and the first thing I hear, the arms are sold to some agent. Some of Pratt at Fox, who testified as follows: the men who hold the arms, I sometimes think, are disposed not to have a bona fide sale. They like to keep the arms in the market, in order to advance the price. I think they have been gambling in arms just as they do in stocks, etc.

the price paid for arms was inexcusably exorbitant. In some instances the arms were worthless, and in others exorbitance in price was coufraud the Government.

other fire-arms are noticed in the testimony ap- Covernment as members of the old regular

OFFICIAL FRAUD.

The Committee call attention to a case of the official prostration of official position to the base purpose of illegal gains, as set forth in the evidence of Samuel A. Hopkins; and in this connection the Committee say that a man by the name of Wood, enjoying the confidence of the President, was appointed Commissioner of Public Buildings, a place not only requiring great business capacity, but unflinching integrity; and that Wood, from his own declarations, made himself an instrument for plundering the Government. The Committee, in discharge of their duty, made a representation of the facts to the patiring zeal; the public welfare as entirely Executive, but before any action was taken, the overlooked and as effectually ignored as if the Government was relieved from the presence of an unworthy official by his resignation.

THE FORTIFICATIONS AT ST. LOUIS. The Committee next approach the subject of he fortifications at St. Louis. The circumstances surrounding this work being of the most extraordinary character, and marked by extravagance, recklessness, insubordination, and fraud, they express the hope that some means may be found to make the parties to the atrocious contract disgorge the sum out of which the Government has been defrauded, and that the laorers who have done the work on the faith of the Government, will not longer be delayed in receiving their just dues.

THE PURCHASE OF HORSES AND MULES. The Committee found that the most astoundng and unblushing trauds had been perpetrated in the purchase of horses and mules, and matters were so arranged that it was impossible for the original owners to sell either horses or mules directly to Government, but all such sales were made by certain middle-men and go-betweens, who, it appears, alone could get any horses or mules taken by the Quartermaster's Department.

ARMY SUPPLIES. The act of Congress on the subject of advertising for supplies for the various departments of the Government was designed to correct a Capl. Comstock at the time the proposition was great public evil—a system of corrupt favorit-drawn up would justify the inference that the ism in Government contracts. To prevent the time, which was a very material feature in the provisions of the act from operating prejudicial-contract, was adjusted between himself and ly to the Government in cases of unforeseen versal application; and the exception, permit-The Committee especially call attention to the arrangement between the Secretary of the for proposals in cases where "immediate delivery," has left the enforcement of the law to the for the Government, saying that it is of such a option of the public officer on whose integrity character, whether it be in the stipulated amount the law is, in the main, dependent for its effieceived, or in the mode of payment, alike in- ciency. It he would act corruptly, he will, under the exception, fail to invite competition. But the exception was necessary; and, at the sually 21 per cent. of the purchase money paid beginning of the present national difficulties, each vessel, and one under which Morgan beginning of the present national difficulties, eighteen months the publisher of a newspaper the purchase of supplies at once, to meet the called The World, in New York city, received reach vessel, and one under which Morgan the purchase of supplies at once, to incertification of the field, was unavoidable. No sagacrous foresight could, in the ordinary course of events, have guarded against it; and in judging the acts of the War Department needed an intellgent, ex fore the committee. If he has received the public officers, in connection with the questions perienced and energetic man to assist in pushe rate of compensation since as before that of integrity and economy, the extraordinary ing forward troops and supplies, and calling his there must be added to this sum paid him emergency must be considered. Yet the Commute that date the further commission of \$43,for service rendered since, making, in all, corrupt motives, or for a want of reasonable view, I will thank you, in consultation with m of \$95,100 paid to a single individual prudence, the act of Congress has been almost the officers of the army and the navy, to assist of \$95,000 paid to a single individual prudence, the act of congress has services a agent of the Government a dead letter, even in that large class of cases in getting vessels, or arranging with the rail-took 15th of luly—a period of fur and where it might have been properly applied. Immense supplies, both in the Navy as well as troops as fast as they are ready to march to their in the ordinary course of things, was easily foreseen, have been purchased privately, under con-

the War Department, the necessity for which, destination, and also to assist them in making tracts expressed or implied, without any competition being invited. In one important division of the army (the Western) the law has been almost totally disregarded, and even the safeguard of the responsibility of public officers has, in many cases, been unnecessarily removed by the and familiarity with the New York market, and employment of 'rresponsible agents in the puremployment of 'rresponsible agents in the pur-chase of large quantities of supplies, even where but on the 23d of April, two days after Cumresponsible and experienced and upright public mings was instructed to co-operate with the officers were in a position to perform the required duty. A vast amount of supplies have been War issued the following order:made on what is called "a requisition." In the Western Department, especially, "requisitions"

generally in the following form: HEAD-QUARTERS, QUARTERMASTERS' DEP'T.

have supplied the place of contracts, and were

St. Louis, September 2, 1861.

Messrs. Liv.ngston, Bell & Co. will furnish of cavalry boots, 5,000 suits infantry uniforms, petition, stimulated, it is true, to some ight extent, and but temprarily, the importion and tent, and but temprarily, the importion and tent and army shoes, 10,000 army overcoats, 5,000 knaparmy shoes, 10,000 army overcoats, 5,000 knaparmy shoes, 10,000 army overcoats, 5,000 knaparmy of the United States, until communication for a general proigacy in the expendire of (army pattern.) All to be made of the best the public treasur and the corruptions the material, and conform to army regulations and requirements; the cost of manufacture, mate-Since the adjournment of the Extra Sion rial and transportation to be furnished to this to consult with the other, may exercise the auof Congress, the War Department is undered department, upon which the quartermaster will thorsty hereby given. Simon Cameron, to have authorized the several States, and allow a fair mercantile profit to the contract.

J. McKINSTRY, Major and Quartermaster.

On such requisitions a single firm in St. Lou-

the firm of Child, Platt & Fox-turnished engaged in the purciase and inspection of arms, in time to time, ordinary army supplies to telegraph, apprised of this appointment. th value of over \$800,000, apparently withouthe price of a single article being previous-

"Quation. What would be the per cent. of profit orthat sale of blankets?

The Committee remark that the numerous ca- the Government be about the same as the profits 1000. This large sum of money was subject to lars.

yesterday and this morning? Answer. I should think so.

While the investigations of the committee pled with other evidence of a purpose to de- lave impressed them with the conviction that, with a few exceptions, the Quartermasters and The abuses in the purchase of Austrian and Commissaries in the regular employment at the emy are gentlemen of ample and equal cacity and fidelity, and in the midst of our misrtunes have been ever jealous for the public elfare, the occasional and irresponsible agents employed by the departments to purchase sup-

lies have, either through want of experience of integrity sacrificed the public interests. It is proper to remark that in furnishing nding General was peculiarly unfortunate the character of the men by whom he was rrounded. The system of public plunder hich pervaded the Deparament was inaugurad at the very begining, and followed up with war was gotten up to enable a mammoth scheme speculation, at the expense of the people, to

To illustrate the importance of system in the urchase of these supplies, as well as the pruence of only employing the reasonable agents Government in the execution of public trusts, stead of irresponsible temporary agents, thro hom a system of favoritism could be consumnated, the Committee call the especial attenon of the House to the purchase of supplies Alexander Cummings, in the city of New ork, under the direction of the Secretary of War. The purchase of these supplies, withat advertising for competition, was clearly justifiable. But the failure to employ in this self or anybody else. disiness an experienced public officer, furnisha just ground of public complaint,

These purchases were made on the spor of a essing necessity, commencing about the 21st April; but at that time there were in the off y of New York, at the head of Quartermaster and Commissary Departments, gentlemen miliar with every want of the army, familiar ith the New York markets, and possessing every other advantage which years of experience could confer. Major Eaton, the Assistant Commissary-General of New York, and Col. Tompkins, the Assistant Quartermaster General, at the same city, were fully entitled the confidence of the Government on the ore of capacity, experience, integrity and ciotism. The legitimate duties of each of these gentiemen nave, to some extent, been performed by persons entirely irresponsible to he Government, and of, at least, limited exrience, and, so far as the committee is inform-, without any public necessity, for the head of those departments at New York have been

fully able to meet any emergency. On the 21st of April, Alexander Cummings. who for tivelve years was the editor of the Evening Bulletin in Pennsylvania, and for the pas purchases or other arrangements, and to com municate at the earliest moment any information of service to this Department,"

No person but the Secretary of War, seems to have been aware of Mr. Cumming's peculiar fitness for so important a duty as the purchase of supplies, when great buisiness experience officers of the government, the Secretary of DEPARTMENT OF WAR, April 23, 1861.

In consideration of the extraordinary emergencies which demand immediate and decisive measures for the preservation of the national capital, and the defence of the National Government, I hereby authorize Edwin D. Morgan, Governor of the State of New York, and Al-Quartermasters' Department with-5,000 pairs exander Cummings now in the city of New York, to make all necessary arrangements for the transportation of troops and munitions of army of the United States, until communication by mails and telegraph is completely re-established between the cities of Washington and New York. Either of them, in case of inability

And on the 4th of May, Gov. Morgan issued the following order: -

"ALBANY, May 4th, 1861. Duties at the capital preventing a personal exercise of the powers within conferred upon me, I delegate my portion thereof to George D. Morgan, on April 26, 1861, being then, first by E. D. MORGAN.

George Morgan was relative and business partner of Governor Morgan, residing in New York city. Governor Morgan seems to have regarded this extraordinary appointment as a franwas some kind of provisions. chise, subject to be transferred at pleasure.

In connection with the appointment of Morgan and Cummings to make these purchases, the Secretaries of War and of the Treasury, as Answe. About forty cents.

Questio. Would the profits of the remainder of the cods sold by Child, Pratt & Fox to

Output

Stated by Mr. Cummings in his testimony placed in the hands of General Dix, Mr. Opdyke and Mr. Blatchford, of N. York, \$2,000,-

ses which have come under their observation, on the goods mentioned in your testimony of the orders of Messrs. Morgan and Cummings or either of them. (See page 391.) Messrs. Dix, Opdyke and Blatchford were distinguished citizens of New York, and prominent members of the Union Defence Committee .- But singular, enough, while these \$2,00,000 are apparently placed under the safeguard of these well-known citizens of New York, it was in effeet placed at the entire disposal of Messers. Morgan and Cummings or of either of them, by the Secretary of War.

Within a few days after Cummings was invested with this authority, he drew from the Committee, through the Sub-Treasurer, Mr. Cisco, at New York, \$250,000, \$90,000 of which, as Mr. Cummings insists, were applied to pay for the purchases made by the Committee itself, or by Mr. Blatchford, a member of it, and the residue, \$160,000, he placed to his own credit in the Park Bank in New York city, and he states, in his evidence, that he made purchases for the Government to the amount of \$160,000.

Mr. Cummings employed a clerk, Mr. James Humphery, and exhibited in that, as in most other transactions, a confiding disposition hardly consistent with a thorough business man engagod in public duty.

Mr. Cummings appears to have known nothing whatever about this Humphery, except that Thurlow Weed said he was "Pliable."

This clerk was authorized to make pur-Mr. Cummings acted in this extraordinary

character for about fifteen days. The \$90,-000 was paid to Mr. Blatchford, or to the committee with which he was acting, by Mr. Cummings, without any examining into the character of the expenditures, either by him-THE WAY CUMMINGS BUYS CLOTHING. Mr. Cammings seems to have expended the

\$160,000 placed to his own credit in the Park Bank according to his own fancy. He says he expended about \$25,000 in clothing, and on that point says: Q. Of whom did you purchase clothing?
A. I connot recall the names now. They

were nearly all strangers to me. I will proluce the vouchers. Q. Did you purchase the clothing in the

market? A. Yes, sir. I called to my assistance

clerk, through whom I purchased what I could. Q. What were the cloths, full suits? A. No, sir. There were two items which covered the largest part of the purchase-pant-

Q. On what requisition did you purchase hats and pantaloons?

A. No requisition. Q. How came you to purchase hats and Pantaloons rather than anything else?

A. Because I thought they would be need-

ed, as hot weather was coming on. I had seen the soldiers pass through here with warm wonter clothing, which I believed they could no ndure when warm weather should come on.

Q. Then you were guided by our own information and judgment as to what would be needed at Washington?

A. Yes,sir. Q. Had you any other guide?

A. No. sir.

Q. Had you any limits imposed upon your actions except such as were imposed by your own discretion?

Q. You purchased such kind, quality, and amount, as was dictated by your own judgment solely?

The clothing was linen pantaloons and straw hats to the amount of over \$24,000. Again, on this subject, Mr. Cummings says: Q. Did you consult with any authority as to

the propriety of introducing linen pantaloons into the army? A. Not until after it was done. After it

was done I talked with Major Sibley, and he said that it was not in accordance with the army regulation; but then I had ceased to pur-THE WAY CUMMINGS BUYS PROVISIONS AND GRO-

CERIES OF ALBANY HARDWARE MERCHANTS. Mr. Cummings purchased provisions and groceries. On this subject he says:

Q. Can you give me the name of any firm of whom you purchased any of those groceries

A. I think some supplies were purchased of Corning & Co., Albany.
Q. Do you know what they were? A. I think they were provisions.

Q. Did you go to Albany to see the firm? No. sir. A. With whom did you do the busines? A. With Mr. Davidson, a member of the

Q. Where did you see him? A. At the Astor House,

Q. What was the nature of the supplies you purchased of that firm? A. They were provisions.

Q. Did you ascertain from him beforehand as to his amiliarity with that branch of busi-A. I supposed he knew all about it.

Q. The provisions were of the kind in which he dealt? A. I supposed so.

Q. Did you seek him out?

A. I met him at the Astor House.

Q. Did you seek him out for this purpose? A. No, sir; he came to me.
Q. Then Davidson came to you and proposed to sell you something which you now think

Q. What was the amount of the bill?

A. I do not remember. The vouchers will

Q. Was it large or small? A. It amounted to several thousand of

Q. Would it exceed or fall short of \$10,000? A. I cannot say. The bill will show to: itself. Q. Did you see the articles?

A. No, sir.
Q. How were they furnished? A. By him; and put on board of the vessel.

Q. What knowledge had you of the quality of the articles, furnished?

A. I could not have much knowledge of it. That was out of the question. Q. Did you employ any gentleman to see

the articles? A. Only my clerk, Mr. Hunphreys.
Q. Were those articles brought from Albany here and shipped?

A. I suppose so. Q. Were they in Albany when you made the purchase?

A. I suppose so.
Q. Had you any absolute knowledge upon that point?

A. No, sir. Q. What was Davidson's statement to you in reference to that thing?

A. That he was familiar with that kind of

business-that he knew the value of the articles of which the Government were in need. Q. What business did he say he was familiar

with? A. I think the purchasing of supplies and provisions. Q. With what branch af the supplies you

were then purchasing did he say he was famil-A. Mainly beef and pork, I think. Q. Did he tell you he was of the firm of E.

Corning & Co.? A. I assumed that.

Q. Had you knowledge then of the particulan-business in which E. Corning & Co. were

No, sir; except as dealers in produce. Q. Then you relied entirely on his own

statement? A. Yes, sir.
Q. And whether the firm was engaged in the produce business you did not know?

A. That was my impression. The firm of E. Corning & Co. were a firm, athe hardware business, in Albany, New

WAY CUMMINGS BUYS HARD BREAD. What was the next considerable item of your putchase ?

Q. What amount of that did you purchase? I do not now remember the precise a-

Did you purchase it personally? Q.

A. Q. My clerk purchased it. From whom?

Hard bread.

From a house in Boston, Ithink. Did you have any personal knowledge of that transaction?

A. Fo. sir. Did you furnish the clerk with the funds, or did you draw in favor of the seller?

It was paid for after it arrived here. Paid to whom? Directly to the party selling, I suppose.

A· Q. By you? By my clerk, I suppose. Q. What was your own personal connec-

tion with the transaction? A. Nothing further than that I ordered the purchase to be made and the articles to be shipped. I was spoken to about the subject first, and it was thought to be wise to make the pur-

CUMMINGS CHARTERS VESSELS. Mr. Cummings also charters vessels. He testifies, with reference to the charter of the Coat-

Q. With whom did you make the contract?

With Mr. Roberts, the owner. A. Did you make a personal examination? I had previously been upon her.

Did you invoke the aid of anybody else n making this contract with Mr. Roberts? A. I think not, specially.

Did you examine her boilers? No sir. What was her tonnage?

I do not know.

For how long a time did you charter I am not sure there was any time speci-

Q. Before the contract was concluded with him what other inquiries did you make for ships A. What ships were here and what could

be had was a subject of inquiry at that time, and I heard of a number. Several came to see me about ships. Q. What other ships did you examine? A. I did not examine any ship. I took it

for granted that they were what they were represented to be. Q. State the terms of the charter party? A. I cannot. Q. Cannot you give us the substance of it? A. I cannot. Q. How much did you pay? A. Either \$1000 or \$1250 a day. The price was considered very

high, but not more than was being paid at the time, and in the pressure we thought it wise to take her.

CUMMINGS BUYS SHOES. Mr. Cummings interested himself in other

purchases for the Government. Q. Since the termination of your duties under that commission have you had any other transaction with the Government of any kind?

A. Not in the way of contracts. I had one ransaction which, perhaps, might come under the scope of your question. When at Washington, after that, I heard a great clamor on account of the want of shoes .- Among others, I had heard Gen. McDowell say that there were regiments that could not march on account of the want of shoes; and I stated this fact to the Secretary of War. He gave me a letter to