# Bedford Gazette.

# VOLUME 58.

NEW SERIES.

# Freedom of Thought and Opinion.

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

# WHOLE NUMBER, 2987.

# VOL. 5. NG. 23.

THE BEDFORD GAZETTE S PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING

BY B. F. MEYERS,

**BY B5. F. MELTCHES**, At the following terms, to wit: \$1.50 per annum, cash, in advance. \$2.00 " " if paid within the year. \$2.50 " " if notpaid within the year. The subscription taken for less than six months. The paid such says 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 facie evidence of fraud and is a criminal offence.

is a criminal offence. Of The courts have decided that persons are ac-countable for the subscription price of newspa-pers, if they take them from the post office, wheth-er they subscribe for them, or not.

# Original Puetry.

# HAPPINESS.

BY. DR. C. N. HICKOK. I've found the gem, (1 joyous cried, As earthly happiness I tried.) See ! here alone "Tis found ! But, ere a voice replied,

'Twas gone. I sought it still :-- In Fashion's maze.

The phantom chas'd with eager gaze, Where'e' it led.

I grasp'd it ; but, its treach'rous blaze Had fled.

In Friendship, I the jewel sought, And to her shrine my off'ring brought

Of heart sincere. A broken reed : it for me wrought

A tear. On Love's fair bosom then I lean'd,

And in my slumber, fondly dream'd Of sorrow fled.

My treasure, when the morning beam'd, Was dead.

I then in Learning's mystic train Pursued my search, but sought in vain;

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 fou..d (with every longing spuru'd) Despair.

I next, Ambition's path pursued;

And strove, where Fame's fair temple stood, To win the goal ; But fill'd with treach'ry, crime and blood,

My soul.

I compass'd Nature, far and hear ; 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,-On isles, where birds in plumage gay, Sport mid the trees, the livelong day ;-In mines of gems, on coral strands ;-Where pearls lie hid, in golden sands : Wander'd mid ruin'd piles, and read The records of the mighty dead : Drank at the well of Science ; knelt At Beauty's shrine ; with Power dwelt : With Reason's torch, on Fancy's wing, Flew to the utmost echoing Of "chiming spheres," and raptur'd, heard 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

**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 Con-tracts, made a report to the House of Represen-tatives to-day of their progress. It was pre-sented 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 th 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 Quar-ter Master-General of New York, under an order from Gen. Wool. The contract with the Government is not re

markable for disinterestedness in promoting the National welfare; yet the Government will cer-tainly be satisfied with ordinary fairness and integrity in contracts made on its behalt, even it a willingness to seize upon the public mis-fortunes for personal aggrandizement is manifest in the transactions. While the Republic has a right to expect it, it cannot compel the unselfish 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 In the event of her loss, by a peri his 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 less than three months. Col. Tompkins seems to have paid no attention to the time for which the termine the sectored. the vessel was chartered. The order of Gen. Wool is silent on the subject. The presence of Capt. Constock at the time the proposition was drawn up would justify the inference that the time, which was a very material feature in the contract, was adjusted between himself and Develin and Freeman, the other parties then

present. The Committee especially call attention to the arrangement between the Secretary of the Navy and Mr. Morgan, for purchasing vessels for the Government, saying that it is of such a the the the the the time invalued areament character, whether it be in the stipulated amount received, or in the mode of payment, alike indetensible and reprehensible

That arrangement is a system of commission, usually 24 per cent. of the purchase money paid for each vessel, and one under which Morgan received as compensation during the period of seven weeks previous to the 6th day of Septem-ber (when this testimony was taken) the enorber (when this testimony was taken) the enormous sum of \$51,584-as admitted by himself before the committee. If he has received the same rate of compensation since as before that date, there must be added to this sum paid him before that date, the further commission of \$43, 424, for services rendered since, making, in all the sum of \$95,000 paid to a single individual for his services as agent of the Government since the 15th of July-a period of four and a half months.

THE PURCHASE OF ARMS.

The Committee next devoted themselves to the subject of the purchase of arms. The extraordinary demand for them, resulting from the conspiracy to overthrow the Union, has resulted in extraordinary expenditores, and, exciting the cupidity of large numbers of persons both ica. has opened up a svs tem of unprecedented speculation. The Gov-eroment has been the victum of more than one conspiracy, and remarkable combinations have been formed to rob the Treasury. The profits from the sale of arms to the Government have been enormous, and realized too, ic many instances, by our own citizens, through a system of brokerage as unprincipled and di honest, and as unfriendly to the success and welfare of the nation as the plottings of actual treason.

In some instances the arms were worthless, and in others exorbitance in price was cou-

with other evidence of a purpose to depled fraud the Government. The abuses in the purchase of Austrian and other fire-arms are noticed in the testimony appended.

OFFICIAL FRAUD.

tant.

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 evilence 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 sumself an instrument for plundering the Gov-

THE FORTIFICATIONS AT ST. LOUIS. The Committee next approach the subject of the 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 con-

The Committee found that the most astound-ing and unblushing frauds had been perpetrated in the purchase of horses and mules, and maters were so arranged that it was impossible for he 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 Quarterinaster's Department. mules taken by the Quartermaster's Department, ARMY SUPPLIES. The act of Congress on the subject of adver-tising for supplies for the various departments of the Government was designed to correct a great public evil-a system of corrupt favoritgreat public evil—a system of corrupt favorit-ism in Government contracts. To prevent the provisions of the act from operating prejudical-ly to the Government in cases of onforeseen emergency, the terms of the act are not of unit versal application; and the exception, permit-ting contracts to be made without advertising for proposals in cases where "immediate delive-ry," has left the enforcement of the law to the oution of the nublic officer on whose therein. portion of the public officer on whose integrity of those departments at New York have been the law is, in the main, dependent for its effi-tiency. It he would act corruptly, he will, On the 21st of April, Alexander Commings the law is, in the main, dependent for its efficiency. emergency must be considered. Yet the Com-mittee are compelled to state that, either thro'

in the ordinary course of things, was easily fore-seen, have been purchased privately, under con-municate at the earliest moment any information seen, have been purchased privately, under con-tracts expressed or implied, without any compe-tition being invited. In one important drivition of the army (the Western) the law has been al-most totally disregarded, and even the safeguard of the responsibility of public officers has, in many cases, been unnecessarily removed by the many cases, over during the second structure of the part of the second structure of the second structu

yesterday and this morning? Answer. I should think so. While the investigations of the committe have impressed them with the conviction that, with a few exceptions, the Quartermasters and

with a few exceptions, the Quartermasters and Commissaries in the regular employment at the Government as members of the old regular army are gentlemen of ample and equal ca-pacity and fidelity, and in the midst of our mis-fortunes have been ever jealous for the public welfare, the occasional and irresponsible agents employed by the departments to purchase sup-plies have, either through want of experience or of integrity sacrificed the public interests. It is proper to remark that in furnishing supplies in the Western Department the com-manding General was peculiarly unfortunate

manding General was peculiarly unfortunate in the character of the men by whom he was surrounded. The system of public plunder which pervaded the Department was inauguraernment. The Committee, in discharge of their duty, made a representation of the facts to the Executive, but before any action was taken, the Government was relieved from the presence of an unworthy official by his resignation. THE FORTFICATIONS AT ST. LOUIS. The Committee set appreciable to the set of the proplet to be carried out.

To illustrate the importance of system in the purchase of these supplies, as well as the pru-dence of only employing the reasonable agents of Government in the execution of public trusts, instead of irresponsible temporary agents, thro whom a system of favoritism could be consumwhom a system of favoritism could be consum-mated, the Committee call the especial atten-tract disgorge the sum out of which the Gov-ernment has been defrauded, and that the la-borers who have done the work on the faith of the Government, will not longer be delayed in receiving their just does. THE PURCHASE OF HORSES AND MULES. The Committee found that the most astound-ing and unbloshing frauds had been perpetrated

ei a just ground of public complaint, These purchases were made on the spur of

necessity, commencing about the 21st essing of April; but at that time there were in the city of New York, at the head of Quartermaster and Commissary Departments, gentlemen familiar with every want of the army, familiar General, at the same city, were fully entitled

under the exception, fail to invite competition. Bot the exception was necessary; and, at the beginning of the present national difficulties, the purchase of supplies at once, to meet the wante of an arrow suddenly broacht into the the purchase of supplies at once, to meet the wants of an army suddenly brought into the field, was utavoidable. No segacious toresight could, in the ordinary course of events, have guarded against it; and in judging the acts of public officers, in connection with the questions of integrity and economy, the extraordinary emergency must be considered. Yet the Com-mittee are connected to state that, either thro inities are compelled to state that, either thro' corrupt motives, or for a want of reasonable prudence, the act of Congress has been almost a dead letter, even in that large class of cases where it might have been properly applied. Immense supplies, both in the Navy as well as the War Department, the necessity for which, in the ordinary course of things, was easily fore-

ses which have come under their observation, on the goods mentioned in your testimony of the orders of Messrs. Morgan and Cummings of the price paid for arms was inexensably exorbi- yesterday and this morning? the orders of Messrs. Morgan and Cummings or either of them. (See page 391.) Messrs. Drs, Opdyke and Blatchford were distinguished citizens of New. York, and prominent mem-bers of the Union Defence Committee.—But singular. enough, while these \$2,000,000 are apparently placed under the safeguard of these well-known citizens of New York, it was in ef-tent placed at the sufficient of the Messre feet placed at the entire disposal of Messers. Morgan and Cummings or ot either of them, by the Secretary of War. Within a few days after Cummings was in-

vested 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 Commit-tee itself, or by Mr. Blatchford, a member of it, and the residue, \$160,000, he placed to his own credit in the Park Bark in New York of the state in his evidence. that he 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 hard-ly consistent with a thorough business man engagod in public duty. Mr. Cummings appears to have known noth

ing whatever about this Humphery, except that Thurlow Weed said he was "reliable." This clerk was authorized to make pur-

bases.

chases. Mr. Cummings acted in this extraordinary character for about fifteen days. The \$90,-000 was paid to Mr. Blatchford, or to the com-mittee with which he was acting, by Mr. Cummings, without any examining into the character of the expenditures, either by him-

self or anybody else. THE WAY CUMMINGS BUYS CLOTHING

THE WAY CUMMINGS BUTS CLOTHING. Mr. Cummings 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 vere nearly all strangers to me. I will produce the vouchers. Q. Did you purchase the clothing in the market? Markel? A. Yes, sir. I called to my assistance a 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 won-ter clothing, which I believed they could no endure when warm weather should come on. Q. Then you were guided by our own in-formation 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?

A. No, sir. Q. You purchased such kind, quality, and amount, as was dictated by your own judg-ment solely? A. Yes, sur. The clothing was linen pantaloons and

A. Yes, sir. 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 alter it was done. After it was done I talked with Major Sibley, and he

Q. Would it exceed or fall short of \$10,000? A. I cannot say. The bill will sh tself.

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 if 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 Alba-

here and shipped? A. I suppose so. Q. Were they in Albany when you made

the purchase? A. 1 suppose so. Q. Had you any absolute knowledge upon

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

reference to that thing?

A. That he was familar with that kind of business—that he knew the value of the arti-cles 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

Q. With what branch af the supplies you vere then purchasing did he say he was la

A. Maioly beef and pork, I think. Q. Did he tell you he was of the firm of E. Corning & Co.?

ur purchase ? Hard bread.

ount.

0.

A. Q.

A. Q.

chase.

Q.

A.

Q.

Q.

A. I assumed that. Q. Had you knowledge then of the particu-ar business in which E. Corning & Co. were ngaged?

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

tatement? A. Yes, str. Q. And And whether the firm was engaged in

Q. And whener the first was compared to the produce business you did not know? A. That was my impression. The firm of E. Corning & Co. were a firm, not in the hardware business, in Albany, New York. THE WAY CUMMINGS BUYS HARD BREAD. Q. What was the next considerable item of

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

Did you purchase it personally? My clerk purchased it. From whom ? From a house in Boston, *I think*. Did you have any personal knowledge transaction ? Fo sic

A. Fo, sir. Q. Did you furnish the clerk with the

nds, or did you draw in favor of the seller ?

Q. What was your own personal connec-tion with the transaction ? A. Nothing furthe: than that I ordered the purchase to be made and the articles to be ship-ped. I was spoken to about the subject first, and it was thought to be wise to make the pur-

COMMINGS CHARTERS VESSELS.

Mr. Cummings also charters vessels. He tes-

With whom did you make the contract

With Mr. Roberts, the owner. Did you make a personal examination ? I had previously been upon her. Did you invoke the aid of anybody else king this contract with Mr. Roberts ?

I do not know. For how long a time did you charter

I am not sure there was any time speci-

ifies, with reference to the charter of the Coal-

I think ., specially. Did you examine her boilers?

No sir. What was her tonnage?

By you ? By my clerk, I suppose.

It was paid for after it arrived here. Paid to whom ?

Directly to the party selling, I suppose.

My longings, Disappointment cast Her pall.

Oh! where can peace be found ? I cried, For it, 1'd give all else beside-Bear shame and loss. 'Tis with (a "still small voice" replied) The cross.

Abt there I found it, and though years have flown, And with them, borne earth's hopes, and joys away, It still remains. Friends all are gone, lov'd ones Have pass'd away, and not one heart is left, To beat in unison with mine. Wealth foo Has taken wings, and disappear'd ; and now A lone old man, wither'd, and bent, and worn With want and suffering, I hapless bear A pauper's fate. The proud pass by in scorn, athing shun the wayside beggar's rags. The good look on in pity, and bestow Their charity, but little do they know, How bless'd I am :- Ah ! little do they dream What founts of joy spring up within my heart; They little think, that more than all their wealth Could buy, is mine-1'm richer than they all.

My mansion, lies far out of mortal sight; My treasures, are where thief can never steal, Nor moth corrupt. My joys, this fleeting world Can neither give nor take away. I have No fear : all, all is safe, within the hands 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 when 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 seek For rest, the curtains of His love, are drawn 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 flown, And the last ling'ring sand is gone, HE will be nigh; How blessed then, to lay me down And die.

The system adopted at an early moment fo the purchase of arms naturally encouraged this result. The Government and the several States, entering the market in active and direct competition, stimulated, it is true, to some slight ex-tent, and but temporarily, the importation and manufacture of arms, but scarcely compensated for a general profligacy in the expenditure of the public treasure and the corruption of the public morals.

Since the adjournment of the Extra Session of Congress, the War Department is understood to have authorized the several States, and to have recognized the right in the Generals commanding the several divisions in the army, to purchase arms, to be paid for by the General Government, creating an unwise and rutinous competition against itself, without increasing the number of arms in the market. Major Morgan, an ordinance officer, who was

engaged in the purchase and inspection of arms, testified as follows :--

"The agents of Fremont, of the Governors of States, of Cities, of Union Defence Commit-tees, of Colonels of Regiments, and of Generals of our Army, are all here in New York. 1 may be in treaty for arms, and the first thing I hear, the arms are sold to some agent. Some of 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 demonst the price. I think they have been gene like to keep the arms in the market, in order to advance the price. I think they have been gam-bling in arms just as they do in stocks, etc." The Committee remark that the numerous ca-the Government he about the same as the profits of the remain-bling in arms just as they do in stocks, etc." The Committee remark that the numerous ca-the Government he about the same as the profits of the remain-the goods sold by Child, Pratt & Fox to the Government he about the same as the profits of the remain-the goods sold by Child, Pratt & Fox to the Government he about the same as the profits of the remain-the goods sold by Child, Pratt & Fox to the goods sold by Child, Pratt & Fox t

HEAD-QUARTERS, QUARTERMASTERS' DEP'T,

ST. Louis, September 2, 1861. } eroment, I hereby authorize Edwin D. Morgan, Messrs. Liv.NGSTON, BCLL & Co. will furnish Quartermasters' Department with -5,000 pairs exander Continings now in the city of New of cavalry boots, 5,000 suits infantry uniforms, 5,000 canteens, 10,000 infantry hats, 10,000 the transportation of troops and munitions of army shoes, 10,000 army overcoats, 5,093 knap-sacks, 10,000 pairs socks, 10,000 undershirts, introduction of the transport to the transport of the transport to the transport of the transpo (army pattern.) All to be made of the best material, and conform to army regulations and

requirements; the cost of manufacture, mate-rial and transportation to be furnished to this department, upon which the quartermaster will allow a fair mercantile profit to the contractors, Messrs, L. B. & Co.

J. MCKINSTRY, Major and Quartermaster.

A true copy: H. W. G. CLEMENTS, Chief Clerk.

On such requisitions a single firm in St. Lous-the firm of Child, Pratt & Fox-lurnisbed

Is—the firm of Child, Flat & Fox—Jurnisbed from time to time, ordinary army supplies to the value of over \$800,000, apparently with-out the price of a single article being previous-ly determined. What is meant in these "re-quisitions" as "a fair mercanitle profil" may be judged of by the testimony of Mr. James P. Goghan, the book-keeper of the firm of Child, Prat and For who testified as follows: out the price of a single article being previous Iy determined. What is meant in these "re-quisitions" as "a fair mercantile profit" may be judged of by the testimony of Mr. James P. Goghan, the book-keeper of the firm of Childy Pratt and Fox, who testified as follows: "Question. What would be the per cent. of profit on that sale of blankets? George Morgan was relative and business part-ner of Governor Morgan seers to have regar-ticty. Governor Morgan seers to have these purchases, the Secretaries of War and of the Treasury.

measures for the preservation of the national capital, and the defence of the National Gov-

ernment, I hereby authorize Edwin D. Morgan by mails and telegraph is completely re-estab hehed between the cities of Washington and New York. Either of them, in case of inability

to consult with the other, may exercise the au-thority bereby given. Sixon Cameron, Secretary of War.<sup>2</sup> And on the 4th of May, Gov. Morgan issued

the following order: -- "ALBANY, May 4th, 1861.

Duties at the capital preventing a personal ex-ercises of the powers within conferred upon me, I delegate my portion thereof to George D. Morgan, on April 26, 1861, being then, first by telegraph, apprised of this appointment. E. D. MORGAN.

George Morgan was relative and business part-

said that it was not in accordance with the army regulation; but then I had ceased to purchase.

THE WAY CUMMINGS BUYS PROVISIONS AND GRO CERIES OF ALBANY HARDWARE NERCHANTS. 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

or provisions? 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?
A. No, sir.
A. With whom did you do the busines?
A. With Mr. Davidson, a member of the second second

Q. Where did you see him?

A. At the Astor House. Q. What was the nature of the supplies you used of that firm?

A. They were provisions. Q. Did you ascertain from him beforehand as to his familiarity with that branch of busi-

I supposed he knew all about it. A. Q. The provisions were of the kind in which to take her.

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? No, sir; he came to me. A. Q. Then Davidson came to you and proposed to sell you something which you now think was some kind of provisions. Yes, sir. What was the amount of the bill?

A. I do not remember. The vouchers

show Was it large or small?

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

Q. Before the contract was concluded with what other inquiries did you make for ships to charter? 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 look if for granted that they were what they were rep-resented to be. resented 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

# CUMMINGS BUYS SHOES.

Mr.Cummings interested himself in other

Q. Since the termination of your duties un-der that commission have you had any other transaction with the Government of any kind? transaction with the Government of any kindf A. Not in the way of contracts. I had one transaction which, perhaps, might come under the scope of your question. When at Washing-ton, after that, I heard a great clamor on ac-count of the want of shoes.—Among others, I had heard Gen. McDowell say that there were regiments that could not march on account of of the want of shoes; and I stated this fact to the Secretary of War. He gave me a letter to