

(Correspondence of the Watchman.)
CAMP CALIFORNIA, 53d Reg't Pa. Vol.,
Alexandria Co., Va. Dec. 16, 1861

Messrs. Editors:—Being a subscriber to the Watchman and off to the wars, "Thanks I to myself" I'll write to you, that your readers might hear occasionally from this side of the Potomac. Perhaps you don't want an "Our own Correspondent." It don't make any difference whether you do or not this time, I shall bore you with a reading of the correspondence, No. 1, and if it does not meet your approbation, just let it out and we will hold our pens hereafter.

Here we are away down South among "Secessionists" and we have many a merry time of it. The boys of the 53d, known as the Young America Regiment, are all right and spoiling for an engagement. We are situated on the extreme right wing of the army, the second position in the great army of the Potomac. Our encampment is located on the ground where Ellsworth Fire Zouaves had the skirmish with the rebels last Spring, at Cloucs Mills. The fence rails were penetrated by hundreds of balls, and the old mill that shielded the rebels bears evidence of very rough work.

We have any amount of alarms by the pickets being driven in. This day week we were ordered to march with three days rations in our carpet sacks. We laid on our arms two nights, but the order was countermanded on the third day. Most of the men were disappointed; they were eager for the fray. Our Col. Jno. R. Brooke, is a young man, but full of energy. Alive to the interests of his men, he leaves nothing undone that can be done for their comfort. Of the sick, he is especially careful, more than can be said of all officials. Of the cleanliness of the camp he is ever watchful that disease may not be engendered for want of sanitary measures. He is kind, almost to a fault; at least his seniors in office think so, but the men and officers under him appreciate his motives, and respect him accordingly. Yea, they love him and where Col. Brooke leads his men will follow, even to the cannon's mouth. Our Lieutenant, Col. Dick McMichael, is termed by the boys, "Old War Horse," and a good old fellow is he. Of our Major Thomas Yeager, we can say so much. He is a regular pealgalia. Why, sirs, the other day one of our number received a telegraphic dispatch that his wife was dead and that he should come home immediately to see his children. His Captain went to the Major who was the only man that had any spare funds, to borrow ten dollars for ten days, and he wanted to charge \$3 dollars for the use of it. The boys heard tell of it and went to work among themselves, and in quarters and halves raised the amount and returned the Major's ten with their tender disgusts. Our Adjutant, Chas. P. Hatch is full of vim, but gentlemanly and courteous to the officers—occasionally he transcends his seniority and gets into the highfalutings. But he is young and wants a little more experience, with all this he is a good fellow. We now come down to Quarter Master General Rice, better than whom none liveth; he feeds us well, clothes us well, and treats us well. Through the Col. and Q. M. Rice, we have received our uniform coats and pants, which many regiments that have been in the service since last Spring have not received. Three cheers for Rice.

I cannot take time to describe our Captains. But I desire to notice the officers of Company D, known at home as the McCann Rifles, composed of the hearty sons of old Centre and Clearfield counties. Capt. Jno. S. McKiernan, 1st Lieutenant, Jas. S. Hall and 2d Lieutenant, John Howe.

McKiernan is an old soldier and yet a young man. He served in Mexico under Scott, in California during the Indian war and through the three months service. His experience as a soldier is of the best and his ability is beyond doubt. He is one of the first in the regiment. Young, active, energetic and able he must make his mark if opportunity offers. Lieut. Hall is known by the people of Centre county and it is unnecessary to say anything in reference to him. His future will be sufficiently scrutinized. Lieut. Howe is also a resident of Centre county, and a worthy man. He possesses the good will of the men, and with care will make a reliable officer.

In this regiment emancipation has but few friends. The officers who resign if the war is made a trifle against slavery, and I find that three fourths of the men and officers with whom I have conversed are opposed to Sumner's bill. A general indignation is felt by the army towards all such as Sumner, Lovejoy and like creatures.

I visited the 1st Pennsylvania cavalry, Company E, Capt. Lipton the other day and found them all in pretty good health and in excellent spirits. Also the 5th Pa. R. corps, company E, Capt. Larimer. The Captain has been very poorly for a considerable time, but is fast recovering and will soon be ready to command again. The command now devolves upon Lieut. Petriken. Also the 49th Pennsylvania Volunteers, Company A, Capt. J. M. Green. The boys are having exciting times on picket duty, and are generally well. Send a copy of the Watchman. More anon.

A LAMODE.
When you see a young man not ashamed to carry a parcel along the streets, you can make up your mind that, with a half chance, he will come to something.

John C. Fremont, in a speech made by him at St. Louis, on his arrival there from Springfield, said that his confidence in our Republican institutions was already wavering. What a pity!

The Watchman.

C. T. ALEXANDER, }
JOE W. FUREY, } Editors.
BELLEFONTE, DEC. 26th, 1861.

To Correspondents.
M. J. M.—Your poetry is received, but unless you send us your real name, we cannot promise to publish it. It is a rule with printers never to publish anything without knowing the name of the writer.
J. P. M.—Your communication came too late for this week's paper, but we shall be happy to publish it in our next issue. We are sorry it did not arrive sooner.
N.—Your poetry is most respectfully declined. Better try again and choose some other subject. The "American Eagle" is about worn out.

Democratic State Executive Committee.

A meeting of the Democratic State Executive Committee will be held at the Buehler House, Harrisburg on Wednesday January 15, 1862, at 3 o'clock P. M.
Democratic papers in the State will please copy.
Wm. H. WELSH, Chm'n.

THE NEW YORK WEEKLY ARGUS.—We have received from the publishers, a copy of the above-named paper and from an examination of its contents, we think we may pronounce it a very good journal. It is Democratic in its politics, and as such we feel like recommending it to all those in want of a good New York Weekly. We do not recollect of ever seeing this paper before, but from the tone of the issue before us, we dub it worthy of patronage. Terms \$2.00 per annum. Address Comstock & Cassidy, Corner of Broadway & Park place, N. Y.

OUR READERS will find in another column, a card from the Editors of the New York Weekly Caucasian, in which they explain to their subscribers the reason why that paper has, of late, failed to reach them through the mails. It seems that the bigoted who presides over the destinies of the Postal Office Department, has issued his imperial decree that no more issues of the Weekly Caucasian shall be circulated in the mails; because, to wit, its editors have had the manliness to oppose him and his abolition crew, in their emancipation designs upon the "peculiar." Really, things are coming to a pretty pass, when the word of one fanatic in high station, is sufficient to interrupt and destroy a man's business. It is full time such high handed outrages upon the liberty of the Press should cease; else, some day, when this war shall be over, such middlemen and tyrannical officials as Mr. Postmaster General Blair, may have an account to settle with the people, which will be found harder to adjust than they may possibly imagine now. In the day of their prosperity and power, if we are not mistaken, the Constitution of the United States, guarantees the liberty of the Press, and the right of free speech to every citizen; but if this sacred provision of the great charter of human rights, is to be thus trampled and spit upon, with impunity, we may as well say "good-by" to the Republic, and submit our necks to the yoke.

We are told that Mr. Lincoln is a conservative man. If so, we are glad of it. But if such be the case, it is a wonder to us, how he is able to preserve his conservatism in the midst of the horde of fanatics who surround him. Our best wish for him is that he may be able to resist their evil influence, and stand firm in defence of the Constitution and the Union, in these troublous times, when the nation has so much need of patriotism and firmness in its Chief Executive Officer.

"THE PINE AND THE PALM"—We have received from New York a copy of a paper with the above title, published by an association of colored gentlemen, who like Mark Tapley, must be jolly fellows, because they come out strong. A supplement accompanies the issue which is filled by a lecture delivered by Wendell Phillips on Tuissant's Overture, the St. Domingo colored General. A portrait is given of Tuissant, who looks like an upper-crust well-fed individual of the old school, with his cap filled with a profusion of feathers. Of course Wendell makes him a hero, and invests the terrible massacre of St. Domingo with all the romance of real battle. His next lecture will probably be on Faustian I. and his court, when the crooked-shined hero and his court, His Royal Highness the Duke of Marmalade and the count d'Ughoecalorum, will each receive a niche in Wendell's gallery of fame!

Whatever may be the consequences that will finally grow out of the arrest of Mason & Slidell while under the protection of the British flag, one thing is certain; our Government will find itself placed in a very awkward and contradictory position. Judging from the tone of the English Press, her British Majesty's Government is highly offended at what they deem an outrage upon their flag and will demand that we make an apology for the indignity, and deliver up to her the bodies of the two important persons taken by us from off her ship as contraband of war. In case of a refusal on the part of our government to comply with her terms of pacification she will declare war against us and pile on the side of the "detested slave owners;" to aid in the destruction of our Government. The manner in which these arrests were made would, perhaps, render an apology necessary, provided we wished to be governed strictly by international law. The arrest was made, it is said, without orders; which being the case

Not Abolitionists.

How persistently some men will deny the truth and shock the understanding of all intelligent people, by their repeated declarations that such and such of our members of Congress are not Abolitionists, is fully shown by the Central Press of this place. Notwithstanding that many of the members of Congress, whose love for the sable descendants of Ham has grown so strong that even they are compelled to admit that they are Abolitionists, yet many of the little country newspaper gentry still argue either that they are not Abolitionists or else that they are not Republicans. But while contending that there is a wide difference between the two, they never attempt to enlighten the public as to the extent of that difference. Abolitionism is, we know, different from Republicanism, in this: that the one favors the immediate and entire abolition of the institution of slavery; while the other seeks by confinement within its present bounds to eventually crush it into non-existence. The first would pull the bold and sauntering hangman, and in an instant would pull the fatal cord and hurl it into perdition; while the other, pretending to show a little more mercy, would play the jailer and place it within a prison's walls, there to starve and eat itself to death. The end to be accomplished by either method, is in the end, the same. It is not strange, therefore, that the advocates of these two theories have become so confounded, one with another, that it is very difficult to distinguish which is which. Especially is it rendered more difficult from the fact that the party organization of these two distinct theories is one and the same. Up to 1856 each of these theories was represented by its own political organization, but the leaders, in order to strengthen themselves for the contest against Democracy, compromised upon Gen. Fremont, the leader of the Abolition faction; and from that day to this, the one political organization known as the Republican party, has contained within itself, these hitherto distinct theories and blended them into one beautiful harmony, so that they are now "one and inseparable." Therefore, until there is a public avowal of a dissolution of the co-partnership between them the one as a party must be held responsible for the misdeeds of the other.

Owen Lovejoy, of Illinois, was elected to his present position by this combination, and of course we must call him a Republican until his acts are disavowed by his constituents. Senator Wilson, who has taken up a great deal of the time of the present session by the reading of his petitions and the pre-empting of bills for the emancipation of the slaves, is another, elected by the same political organization. Lane, of Kansas, Wade, of Ohio, Fessenden, of Maine, and Covode, Stephens, Wilmot, Cowan and Hickman, of Pennsylvania, all of whom are constantly doing all they can, whenever an opportunity offers, to effect the emancipation of the slaves have been elected by the same political party. Are they Abolitionists, or are they Republicans? We know that there are many honest Republicans who have never until the present day, seen their affinity to Abolitionism; that are unwilling to acknowledge these men as Republicans. To such then we would ask the question, where and who are your Republican leaders? Echo answer where? Common sense answers nowhere. The truth is that Abolitionism has swallowed up the entire Republican party, and owns the whole concern.

We do not, however, wish our readers to infer that all Republicans must therefore be necessarily Abolitionists, because we do know a great many good and true men in this country, men who love their country better than the negro, who heartily detest Abolitionism, and who have acted with the Republican party heretofore because they believed it the embodiment of the true principles of Republican Government. But they now see the duplicity that has been practiced upon them; that the principles for which they contended and voted, have been laid aside by the men they selected, in good faith to represent them in the councils of the nation; and in their stead the detestable and destructive theories of Abolitionism are advanced and advocated with a surprising zeal. To these, we would say, behold where you have been carried by the Republican current. Deny your allegiance to it and assert your independence; sever the ties of a party that bind you to it; dissolve your co-partnership entered into in 1856, and rush to the rescue of your country, ere it is irretrievably ruined.

The Mason and Slidell Affair.

Whatever may be the consequences that will finally grow out of the arrest of Mason & Slidell while under the protection of the British flag, one thing is certain; our Government will find itself placed in a very awkward and contradictory position. Judging from the tone of the English Press, her British Majesty's Government is highly offended at what they deem an outrage upon their flag and will demand that we make an apology for the indignity, and deliver up to her the bodies of the two important persons taken by us from off her ship as contraband of war. In case of a refusal on the part of our government to comply with her terms of pacification she will declare war against us and pile on the side of the "detested slave owners;" to aid in the destruction of our Government. The manner in which these arrests were made would, perhaps, render an apology necessary, provided we wished to be governed strictly by international law. The arrest was made, it is said, without orders; which being the case

an apology could be made without reflecting any discredit upon the Government, were it not that a majority of the Cabinet have not only endorsed, but applauded the act of Capt. Wilkes. They have thus virtually made his act the act of the Government, and we can not now back down without dishonor to the nation. That the act was wrong in the first place, is generally conceded, but the American people do not feel very much like covering and retreating under the growling of the British Lion. There is, therefore, a first rate chance for a "mass" of no small dimensions, with her petticoated Majesty.

A war with her is, at this time, especially not desirable, and the matter should be compromised, if possible, without dishonor to the nation. How it can be done, we must confess we are unable to see; but we suppose some of our violent Emancipation Congressmen, who appear to be the soldiers of the day, will manage to back out somehow, even if it should not be quite as honorable as it should. They are not very great sticklers for honor at best, and we will not be a bit surprised to see a number of these great-fighting-stay-at-homes advising the Government to get upon its knees and beg her Majesty's pardon. We shall see who will be the first to cover.

The Black Republicanism Age.

This is undeniably the age of Abolitionized Republicanism. When renegade reverends, downright charlatans political monstrosities and stupendous quackery has the ascendancy. The real living statesman of the age, like so many lost pleiads have faded from the political heavens, and flickering will-to-the-wisp dancing upon the rotting fungus of a political quagmire, appear to be leading the nation at a break-neck speed among the bogs and fens of a fanatic's morass, where, like the huge mastodon which extinct, they would have its bones adjoined to amaze the historic adventurer of a coming age. First in the line came the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, his satanic reverency Mr. Greeley, the Rev. Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe with co-equal subs and imitators who have preached negro equality, woman's rights, free loveism and infidelity to the Constitution until the nation has seemed to relish the galvanized theology. Abolition rants and the general wreck and smash up of everything sacred and dear to the long millions of a free country, rather than a continuance of peace, prosperity and happiness. Next among those who contributed to draw the nation from its onward and upward progressive path, came the slippery political financiers, whose every idea of statesmanship found rest in personal promotion, fat contracts, and a full treasury. Having hung pretty generally to the treasures of their respective States, until nothing of importance was left, they seemed simultaneously to relax their hold and fasten upon the treasury of the general government to which they will stick until shaken off by the determination of an indignant people. Next came the political monstrosities, the Hickmans, the Groves and the John Covodes all to be followed by the resurrected quacks of the Thaddeus Stephens and the David Wilmot order. The former of which at one time wished to "throw conscience to the devil," and the latter of which was never in possession of so "troublesome a customer."

Who can wonder when such men figure in the councils of our nation that we have fallen upon evil times. It makes at once a factional and conflicting element which all the firmness of the President and all the true patriotism of the country, are called upon to hold in check in order to maintain and execute the provisions of the Constitution. If the North were united in maintaining the Constitution, and in the policy of restoring the Union as it was, upon its original basis of State equality, we should have far less trouble in subduing the wicked rebellion of the South. The greatest national want now, is good statesmen at Washington. Ignorance and fanaticism have been at the bottom of all our troubles and disasters, and we can never hope for a change until the people send conservatives and statesmen back to the national capital. Let them prepare for it, and push forward the good work which has thus far begun, until the last ranting humbug that treads the aisles of the national capitol shall be left in infamy and seclusion among the inland hamlets of a country they have only lived to disgrace and ruin.—North. Co. Dem.

JESSIE AND MR. BLAIR, SEN.—The Cincinnati Press tells of the following good turn by Mrs. Jessie Benton Fremont, while on her recent visit to the capital, to ferret out the organ of the hostility which has manifested itself toward her husband. At one of the interviews with the President, Mr. Blair, son, in her of the Postmaster-General and Frank P. Blair, was present. Mr. Blair turned to Mrs. Fremont and said: "Mrs. Fremont, allow me to say to you that in my judgment, madam, your proper place is at the head of your husband's household at St. Louis, and this intermeddling with the affairs of the State is, to say the least of it, in every bad taste on your part. And in conclusion, I wish you to understand that here is where we make men and unmake them."

To which Mrs. Fremont instantly replied: "Mr. Blair, permit me to say to you that I have seen some men of my making and if they are the best you can do, I advise you to quit the business."

He who knows his ignorance, is the possessor of the rarest kind of valuable knowledge.

"Don't you mean to marry, my dear sir?"
"No, my dear widow, I'd rather lose all the rib's I've got than to take another."

To the Public.

"When a man thinketh he standeth, let him take heed lest he fall." is a sentiment never more forcibly illustrated than in our own case. Last week we explained to our readers the grounds upon which "The Caucasian" was admitted to the mails, and expressed our confident belief that no further trouble need be anticipated. This week, however, our business has been again suddenly and most unexpectedly arrested by an order from the Post-office Department prohibiting "The Caucasian" from circulating in the mails. With our paper in type and the press waiting, we determined this time to proceed to Washington and gain by a personal investigation the reasons, if possible, for so strange a proceeding. We have the gratification to state that there is no charge that we have violated the terms of our letter to the Postmaster in New York, or that we have not acted in entire good faith in the matter. And more, there is no charge that we have opposed the war—that we have advocated secession or had ourselves liable to any charge of disloyalty, unless it be disloyal to oppose negro freedom. Our only sole cause of offending, so far as we can learn, is that we have advocated the subordination of the negro to the white man as the normal order of American society and contended that the relation of the races as it has come down to us from the founders of our government is right. This being simply a question of political opinion, we had no suspicion that its advocacy could fall under the ban of the administration. It is simply the idea or basis of the doctrine that this is the "white man's government," as proclaimed by Senator Douglas, Chief-Justice Taney and many of the most eminent Northern Democrats striking down "The Caucasian," therefore, has a deeper significance than any previous act of interference with the press. It is simply a refusal to allow us to defend the decision of the Supreme Court of the land. This, to after we have relied upon the permission of the department that "The Caucasian" should be sent through the mails, and expended a large sum of money, which is now all lost, in an attempt to get it started.

Finally, rather than have our business broken up, our present dilemma, our hands thrust out of employment just at the beginning of winter, we proposed to publish a paper containing merely the news of the day, and extracts from other journals, that were not to circulate through the mails, and without any opinions of our own in it. Our subscribers we thought, might accept this as a temporary expedient, but astounding to relate, even this was refused!

It would be useless for us to try to find language to express to our readers, the bitter, burning disappointment we feel over this last unparalleled act. The loss of money, which we could ill afford, is had enough, but the senseless injustice, of wrong, of cruelty, which must be felt to be appreciated is all most unendurable.

Our readers may inquire, however, "what will you do now?" To you intend to give up? We answer, NO! The principle that we are contending for is the vital element of our very national existence. It is the doctrine of multitudes of Democrats in the North, and with abundant confidence in the grand truth that this is a government of white men! and none others, we shall never forsake it, as long as there are people enough who will support it. "THE CAUCASIAN" will be continued for the present, at all events, and can be ordered through news agents.—There is no objection to our continuance of the paper, but only that our subscribers shall not have the privilege of receiving their paper by mail.

We feel sanguine that this subject will not be allowed to rest here. The matter, we have reason to believe, will soon be brought before Congress, and we trust that the exclusion of the Caucasian from the mails will be only temporary. At all events, we ask our subscribers to have patience, and may rely that every effort we can use shall be made to remove the difficulties that now surround us.

VAN EYK, HORTON & CO.,
Editors and Proprietors of "THE CAUCASIAN."
J. H. VAN EYK,
R. H. HORTON,
T. B. CHASE.
New York, Dec. 7th, 1861.

TO OUR EXCHANGES.

As we have no means of reaching our readers to explain to them the causes of the stoppage of "The Caucasian," by mail, we thought it our duty to send a copy of our editorial brethren as well copy the above in their columns. We shall also esteem it a great favor to receive exchanges as usual, during the interdicted upon us.

Mason and Slidell's Protest.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.
Among the important documents just transmitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Navy, is the protest of Messrs. Mason and Slidell against their arrest. It is quite long, and narrates in great particular every incident of the capture. It opens by stating that they took passage on the Trent at Havana, paying their passage money to the British Consul; that when arrested they were under the protection of the British flag, and were taken by an armed force which they feeble resisted, commanded by a person in the "naval uniform of the United States."

THE VL. LATEST NEWS.

Successful Engagement with Enemy—
Fight at Drainsville—Portion of McCalls' Division Engaged—Loss of Cannon Captured—Loss of Enemy's Seventy-nine Killed and Wounded.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—This morning at six o'clock, a portion of Gen. McCalls' Division proceeded in the direction of Drainsville on a foraging expedition for the purpose of making a reconnoissance in that locality. Drainsville is a small town between McCalls' Headquarters and Leesburg. On arriving in that vicinity, they encountered the enemy, who had four regiments of infantry, composed of South Carolinians, Alabama and Kentucky, with one battery of six pieces and a Regiment of cavalry under command of Gen. Steuart.

The only troops on our part engaged in the affair at Drainsville, were Gen. Ord's Brigade, the First Regiment of Rifles, and Easton's battery of four guns. At four o'clock, after the action, Gen. McCalls sent two officers to command the troops who were killed and wounded. It was ascertained that they left on the field fifty-three killed and twenty-two wounded—making their loss sixty killed and wounded—a total of seventy-nine killed and wounded—and they no doubt, carried off many more. They also left behind them killed or disabled.

The enemy were completely routed, and fled precipitately after a fight of an hour and a half, leaving two cannon and small arms, blankets, great coats, etc., more than our troops could bring away. They men also brought in a number of prisoners. One loss is, as near as can be ascertained, about ten killed and fifteen wounded. The expedition returned to their camp at Langley's at 9 o'clock to-night. Gen. McCalls, in a despatch received at Headquarters to-night, says "much credit cannot be given to Gen. Ord, for his gallant conduct and skill throughout the day. Easton's battery was admirably served and did good execution. The Rifles also behaved finely."

Further from Port Royal.

Reconnoissance to the Charleston and Savannah Railroad—Flight of the Rebels—Depression of the South—Great Negro Insurrection in Mississippi.
New York, Dec. 20.—A vessel per the steamer Atlantic state that 40 of our men, on the 16th, crossed to the mainland toward the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, and encountered a rebel force of 500, who retreated after firing a volley without effect.

Fort Pickens again Open Fire.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 20.—A despatch to a Richmond paper states that Fort Pickens had opened fire three times upon Fort McRae since the 23d ult., but with what effect is not known. On the 30th ult. an incessant shower of shells was thrown into the fort by Col. Brown.

Fight in Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 20.—Information is received from the West, this morning, to the effect that in addition to the expedition of Gen. Pope against the enemy at or near Clinton, the county seat of every county, another part of his forces, after Col. Davis and Major Marshall, surprised another camp of rebels, on the afternoon of the 18th, near Nutford, a little North of Warrensburg. A brisk skirmish ensued, then the rebels finding themselves surrounded, surrendered. Col. Davis took thirteen hundred prisoners, including three Colonels, seventeen Captains, 1000 stand of arms, 60 wagons, 1000 horses, a large quantity of tents, baggage and supplies. Our losses were killed and eight wounded. The Rebel loss is not yet known.

Information from Glasgow.

Information from Glasgow states that our troops have captured about two tons of powder, buried on Clab. Jackson's farm. Major Hibbard captured sixty Rebels a day or two since, in Johnson's county. Good news is expected from Kansas, the troops having been moving briskly in the last day or two.

When you see a young man not ashamed to carry a parcel along the streets, you can make up your mind that, with a half chance, he will come to something.

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