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PRINCIPLES, not MEN.

TERMS—\$1 25 per Annum, if paid in advance

VOL. XXXII.—WHOLE NO 1681

CLEARFIELD, PA. WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27, 1861.

NEW SERIES—VOL. II.—NO 19.

Select Poetry.

MISSING.

Not among the suffering wounded; Not among the peaceful dead; Not among the prisoners "Missing"— That was all the message said.

ARREST OF MESSRS. MASON AND SLIDELL.

Views and Speculations of the Press.

From the Baltimore Sun.

The arrest of the two Confederate Commissioners to Europe—Messrs. Mason and Slidell—by Captain Wilkes, of the United States frigate San Jacinto, elicits a variety of opinions and dissertations upon international law.

"Such being the facts in the case, whether Capt. Wilkes acted with or without the orders of the national government, it remains to inquire into the grounds by which this proceeding is justified in the light of international law; for, however expedient may seem the success gained by the arrest and detention of these Confederate representatives, whether regarded in point of political or military strategy, it would be dearly purchased at the cost of a single principle of that public morality whose rules govern, or should govern, the conduct of civilized and Christian States in their mutual intercourse in peace and in war.

"These, therefore, who are not already familiar with the principles involved in the proceedings of Capt. Wilkes, will learn with interest that it is fully justified by the rules of international law, as those rules have been expounded by the most illustrious British jurists and compiled by the most approved writers on the Laws of Nations. So far from having transcended the powers with which he was clothed by that code, Capt. Wilkes did not exhaust the full measure of his authority, for he not only had an undoubted right to arrest these "ambassadors" of the Confederate government on their passage to Europe, but might have justly captured the vessel on which they were found, and brought her into port to be condemned as a lawful prize.

suppose that his action can afford any ground for reclamation by the British government, which will be more likely to express its grateful appreciation of the forbearance displayed by that officer in not capturing the vessel found engaged in "favoring the offensive projects of the enemy." If the British legisla recognize the right of one belligerent nation to capture on the high seas the ambassador of another belligerent nation, a fortiori must they acknowledge the right of a sovereign belligerent government to seize, under similar circumstances, the envoys of a factor; to which, in the present case, they have conceded the rights, and therefore the responsibilities, of a belligerent.

"It may be proper to add that it makes no difference in the law of the case whether the master of a vessel be ignorant or not of the character of the service in which he is engaged. In the present case, however, the master of the Trent must have been well aware of the character borne by Messrs. Mason and Slidell, and therefore knew that in doing a service to the Confederate belligerents by forwarding their envoys to Europe, he was doing an injury to the government of the United States."

The Boston Traveler (rep.) takes a different view. It says: "It is not probable that our government would allow a British war vessel to take an Irish rebel out of an American vessel in which he had taken passage from New York to San Francisco. Without time to look up any precedents, we are inclined to believe that, according to the laws of nations, the prisoners must be given up, and the act of the commander of the San Jacinto disavowed. But may not the case of the Carolina be applicable to this case? The English then actually invaded our territory, and cut out an American steamboat, causing her destruction and the deaths of some persons, because she had engaged in aiding the rebels in Canada; and the British steamship that was taking Slidell and Mason to Europe, was engaged in helping the Southern rebels. Where is the difference? The act was a bold one on the part of the commander of the San Jacinto, and we cannot help admiring his pluck, while regretting that he had not more prudence."

Speaking of the incidents that transpired, when the arrests were made, the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Press writes: "When about forty miles off Matanzas, the old Bahama channel, the Trent hoisted her flag, and the two vessels were soon within hailing distance. Commodore Wilkes sent a shot across the bows of the Trent. To this no attention was paid, when another was directed near the bow. This brought the steamer to. Lieutenant Fairfax, to whom both of the Confederate passengers were personally known, was sent on board in a boat, supported by two more boats, filled with marines. Lieut. Fairfax went on deck and called for Messrs. Mason and Slidell, who soon appeared. Lieut. Fairfax politely informed them of the objects of his mission, and asked them to go on board his boat. To this they objected, Mason remarking that they had paid their passage to Europe, to the British Consul at Havana, (who acts as agent for the mail steamship line), and he would not leave without force. Lieut. Fairfax, pointing to his marines drawn up on the decks of the British steamer, said: "You see, sir, I have the force, if that is what you require?" "Then you must use it," replied Mason. With this Lieutenant Fairfax placed his hand upon the Senator's shoulder and pressed him to the gangway. At this juncture the passengers rushed forward, somewhat excited, and attempted to interfere. The marines immediately showed their bayonets, and Mason consented to the decision of Lieut. Fairfax, asking that he might be permitted to make his protest in writing. Just then a fine specimen of an Englishman rushed on deck in military or naval uniform (the officer in command of the mails, probably,) and demanded why passengers on board that ship were molested. Lieut. Fairfax informed him that he had stated to Capt. Moir, of the packet, why he arrested two of his passengers, and further that that he had no explanations to make. Protests were then drawn up, and Mason and Slidell, with their Secretaries, Eustis and McFarland, went into the boats of the San Jacinto."

MILITARY PUNISHMENT.—The military regulations of the United States laws prescribe the following punishment for military offences, all of which are applicable to volunteers who have been sworn into the United States service: Mutiny.—"Any officer or soldier who shall begin, excite, cause or join in any mutiny or sedition in any troops or company in the service of the United States, or in any party, post, detachment or guard shall suffer death, or such punishment as by a court-martial shall be inflicted."

Desertion.—"All officers and soldiers who have received pay or have been duly enlisted in the service of the United States and shall be convicted of having deserted the same, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as by the sentence of a court-martial shall be inflicted."

Absence without leave on the part of non-commissioned officer or soldier, upon being convicted thereof, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence at the discretion of a court-martial. Aiding to desert is punished with death, or such other punishment as shall be inflicted by a court-martial.

Drunkenness on the part of a soldier is punishable by such corporal punishment as shall be inflicted by sentence of a court-martial. Reproachful speeches by soldiers are punishable by confinement. Quarrels and affrays by soldiers are punishable by arrest and confinement and at the discretion of a court-martial.

LATER NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

Retaliatory Measures—Names of the Officers Sentenced to be Hung—Interesting Correspondence.

[From the Richmond Enquirer, Nov. 13.]

C. S. A. War Department, Richmond, Nov. 9, 1861.

Sir: You are hereby instructed to choose by lot from among the prisoners of war of the highest rank who is to be confined in a cell appropriated to convicted felons, and who is to be treated in all respects as if such convict, and to be held for execution in the same manner as may be adopted by the enemy for the execution of the prisoner of war Smith, recently condemned to death in Philadelphia. You will also select thirteen other prisoners of war, the highest in rank of those captured by our forces, to be confined in the cells reserved for prisoners accused of infamous crime, and will treat them as such so long as the enemy shall continue so to treat the like number of prisoners of war captured by them at sea, and now held for trial in New York as pirates. As these measures are intended to represent the infamous attempt now made by the enemy to commit judicial murder on prisoners of war, you will execute them strictly, as the mode best calculated to prevent the commission of so heinous a crime. Your obedient servant,

J. P. BENJAMIN, Acting Secretary of War.

To Brigadier Gen. John H. Winder, Richmond, Va.

Headquarters Department of Health, Richmond, Va., Nov. 11, 1861.

Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Secretary of War. Sir: In obedience to your instructions contained in your letter of the 9th instant, one prisoner of war of the highest rank in our possession was chosen by lot, to be held for execution in the same manner as may be adopted by the enemy for the execution of Smith, recently condemned to death in Philadelphia. The names of the six Colonels were placed in a can. The first name drawn was that of Col. Conger, Sixty-ninth regiment N. Y. S. M., who is the hostage chosen to answer for Smith. In choosing thirteen from the highest rank to be held for answer for a like number of prisoners of war captured by the enemy at sea, these being only ten field officers, it was necessary to draw by lot three captains. The first names drawn were Captains J. B. Ricketts, H. McQuade and J. W. Rockwood. The list of thirteen will therefore stand: Colonels Lee, Cogswell, Wilcox, Woodruff and Wood; Lieutenant Colonels Bowman and Nell; Majors Potter, Revere and Vogles; Captains Ricketts, McQuade and Rockwood. Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN H. WINDER, Brigadier General.

Headquarters Department of Health, Richmond, Va., Nov. 11, 1861.

Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.—Sir: In obedience to your instructions, all the wounded officers have been exempted as hostages to await the result of the trial of prisoners captured by the enemy at sea. I have therefore made selections by lot of Captains H. Bowman and F. Keller, to replace Captains Ricketts and McQuade, rounded.

The list of thirteen will now stand—Colonels Lee, Cogswell, Wilcox, Woodruff and Wood; Lieut. Colonels Bowman and Nell; Majors Potter, Revere and Vogles; Captains Rockwood, Bowman and Keller. Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN H. WINDER, Brigadier General.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Nov. 14.]

Confederate Episcopal Church.

We publish, as general information, "The Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Confederate States of America," as proposed by the general convention of that church, lately held at Columbia, South Carolina.

The convention, we learn, was well attended, all the bishops of that church in the Confederate States being present, except Bishop Folk of Louisiana, together with a full attendance of clerical and lay deputies. The venerable Bishop Meade, of Virginia as senior bishop, presided over the body. The general tone of its deliberations, though entirely free from asperity towards the church of the North, gave evidence of a deep and settled conviction on every hand that the separation in Church organization, like that in civil government, was, and ought to be, complete and perpetual. In taking the necessary steps to form an independent church organization for the Confederate States, everything was done with harmony and good feeling, and but one important change from the old constitution was made—namely, that which permits a State to divide herself into two or more dioceses (jurisdiction of a bishop) without the consent of the general council. The several State councils are required each for itself to ratify this constitution.

The missionary fund and work of this church in the South, it was found, had suffered no decline since the separation from the North, but both were on the increase, even under a provisional arrangement.

The Confederate form of Prayer.

The following is the form of prayer read in the various churches of all denominations throughout the Confederate States on the Fast Day, November 13th. In the Jewish Synagogues the name of Christ was omitted:

Almighty God, the Sovereign disposer of events, it hath pleased Thee to protect and defend the Confederate States hitherto in their conflict with their enemies, and be unto them a shield. With grateful thanks we recognize Thy hand and acknowledge that not unto us, but unto Thee belongeth the victory; and in humble dependence upon Thy Al-

mighty strength, and trusting in the justice of our cause, we appeal to Thee that it may please Thee to set at naught the efforts of all our enemies and put them to confusion and shame.

O, Almighty God, we pray Thee that it may please Thee to grant us Thy blessing upon our arms, and give us victory over all our enemies, wherever they may be. Preserve our homes and altars from pollution and secure to us the restoration of peace and prosperity; all of which we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Blessed Lord and Saviour, to whom, with Thee, the Father and the Holy Spirit, we will give all the praise and glory in time and throughout all eternity. Amen and Amen.

GENERAL JIM LANE.

One of the most disgraceful and impolitic acts of the President was the appointment of the notorious Jim Lane, of Kansas, a Brigadier General, and sending him to renew his career of murder, rapine and robbery in Missouri. If it was the purpose of the President to drive the whole people of Missouri into rebellion, then the employment of Lane and Montgomery was admirably calculated to promote the object in view, but it can be justified on no other ground. The St. Louis Republican says of him:—Lane is a man tracked by fires needlessly kindled and blood needlessly shed. His career accords with much that we have believed of his antecedents; and also with his representations of Kansas, public men, who stand high in the estimation of a large part of the Republican party there. They have painted him in much worse colors than we have ever presumed to show him up in. If their account of him is true, he is not fit to be trusted, with responsible military command; and what is in common decency and feeling due, not only to the interests and welfare of Missouri, but to the rights of humanity and the good name of our countrymen, demands that, if he is suffered still to hold that command, he should be compelled to exercise it outside of Missouri. Anybody, who, reading what he writes, and seeing reports of what he says, cannot half perceive that he has before him the evidences of a rudely educated and savage spirit, must be obtuse indeed. We cannot admire the taste or discernment of the press which admires him; nor believe in the judgment or hardly honesty of those who would wish to have continued to him the power of hounding on his followers to new deeds of devastation, waste and ruin. Such men and presses have but little regard for the interests of this State or of humanity; but seem animated only by an insane thirst for destruction. Their spirit is that of a Comanche; and if propagated widely among our people, would make them unfit to enjoy any institutions of their republicanism or civilized society. They are the foes of both."

MAJOR-GENERAL HALLECK.

Major-General H. W. Halleck, who has been assigned to the command in chief of the army in Missouri, is a New Yorker by birth. He entered the West Point Academy in 1835, was graduated in 1839, ranking third in his class, and entered the army as Brevet Second Lieutenant of engineers, his commission bearing date July 1, 1839. He remained in the Military Academy until June of the next year as Acting Assistant Professor of Engineering; in 1841 he published a work on "Masonry and its Uses," was made First Lieutenant in January, 1845, and published an able work on the "Elements of Military Art and Science" in 1846. Shortly after the Mexican War broke out Lieutenant Halleck was sent to California, and in September, 1848, he was brevetted Captain "for gallant conduct in affairs with the enemy on the 19th and 20th days of November, and meritorious service in California, May 1, 1847."

In California he was engaged in the military government, as secretary of State, under Gen. Kearney, Col. Mason and Gen. Riley, from 1847 to December, 1849. Afterward he became Chief of the staff of Commodore Shubrick in the further united naval and military operations on the Pacific coast. He was also a member of the convention which met in 1849 to frame the constitution of the State, and was on the committee which drafted the constitution. He was made Captain of Engineers in July, 1853, and resigned his commission August 1, 1854. Since the breaking out of the present war the government has recalled him to the army, and he returns now with the commission of a Major-General, dating from August 19th of the present year. Orders were sent to Gen. Halleck some time ago to report for duty in Washington, where he arrived two weeks ago, and has since left to take command in Missouri.

BRIG. GEN. STONE.

BRIG. GEN. STONE.—Charles P. Stone is a native of the State of Massachusetts, and his first military career bears date 1841, when he entered West Point as a Cadet. In 1845 he was seventh in a class numbering forty-five. In July of that year he was brevetted Second Lieutenant of Ordnance, and from August, 1845, to January, 1846, he was acting assistant teacher of Ethics, &c., at the Military Academy. On the 25th of September, 1847, he was brevetted First Lieutenant for gallant and meritorious conduct at the battle of Molino del Rey, and on the 13th of the same month was brevetted Captain for the same conduct at Chapultepec. He was made First Lieut. in the army in February, 1853, and received on the 17th day of February, 1855. On the breaking out of the present trouble, he took command of the District of Columbia militia, and moved them up in the neighborhood of his recent station. On the formation of the new regiments of the regular army, he was appointed from the District of Columbia to the Colony of the Fourteenth United States Infantry. His commission bears date May 14, 1861. On the 15th of the same month he was appointed by Congress a Brigadier General of Volunteers, and held the command of the Third Brigade under Gen. Banks. His command was then temporarily separated from that of the Major General commanding the Department of the Shenandoah, and he held the position in the neighborhood of Edward's Ferry, with a moderate force, with his headquarters at Poolsville. He has always been spoken of as a good soldier, but this is the first opportunity that he has had to exhibit his generalship, although his bravery was fairly tested in Mexico.

POETRY IS SAID TO BE THE FLOWER OF LITERATURE.

Poetry is said to be the flower of literature; prose is the corn, potatoes and meat; satire is the aqua fortis; love and wit is the spice and pepper; love letters are the honey and sugar; letters containing reminiscences are the apple-dumplings.

WHY DO OUR SOLDIERS NEED NO BARRICADES?

Why do our soldiers need no barricades? Because they are regularly shaved by the government contractors.

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Took Him at His Word.—A certain country squire had a friend to visit him in business, and was very much annoyed when his wife came to ask him what he wanted for dinner. "Go away! let us alone!" impatiently said the squire. Business detained his friend till dinner time, and the squire urged him to remain. To the surprise of both, they saw nothing but a huge bowl of salad, which the good wife began quietly to serve up. "My dear," said the squire, "where are the meats?" "You didn't order any," coolly answered the housewife. "I asked you what you would have, and you said, 'Let us alone!' Here it is." The friend burst into a laugh, and the squire, after looking lurid for a moment, joined him. "Wife I give it up.—Here is the money I denied you that you wanted for that carpet. Now let's have peace and some dinner." The good woman pocketed the money, rang the bell, and a sumptuous repast was brought in. The squire never joked with her again about dinner.

Kossuth and Hungary.

Kossuth has published another address to the Hungarians, in which he predicts that the Emperor of Austria will either voluntarily offer a compromise or be compelled to abdicate in order to open the way for an arrangement. But, he says, Hungary cannot live in peace with Austria, and without complete separation there is no safety.

When Oliver Cromwell first coined money.

When Oliver Cromwell first coined money, an old cavalier, looking at one of the new pieces, read this inscription on one side, "God be with us," and on the other side, "The Commonwealth of England." "I see," said he, "that God and the Commonwealth are all on different sides."

It is said that the average number of battles that a soldier goes through in his life.

It is said that the average number of battles that a soldier goes through in his life is five. We know an old maid who has without doubt fourteen engagements, and has powder enough left for as many more.

The Northern debts re-estimated in Petersburg, Virginia.

The Northern debts re-estimated in Petersburg, Virginia, are upwards of \$600,000,000, and in Richmond more than \$2,000,000,000.

Why do our soldiers need no barricades?

Why do our soldiers need no barricades? Because they are regularly shaved by the government contractors.

Though men boast of holding the reins, the women tell them which way they must drive.

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