THE DAILY PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

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OFFICIAL.

LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES,

Passed at the Third Session of the Thirty-seventh Congress.

[PUBLIC—No. 69.]

AN ACT to protect the lien upon vissels in certain cases, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in all cases now or hereafter pending wherein any ship, vessel, or other property, shall be condemned in any proceeding by virtue of the acts above-mentioned, or of any other laws on that subject, the court rendering judgment of condemnation shall, notwithstanding such condemnation, and before awarding such ship, vessel, or other property, or the proceeds thereof, to the United States or to any informer, first provide for the payment, out of the proceeds of such ship, vessel, or other property, of any bona fide claims which shall be filed by any loyal citizen of the United States, or of any foreign State or Power at Peace and amity with the United States intervening in such proceeding, and which shall be duly established by evidence as a valid claim against such ship, vessel, or other property, under the laws of the United States or of any loyal State thereof: *Provided,* That no such claim shall be allowed in any case where the claimant shall have knowingly participated in the illegal use of such ship, vessel, or other property: *And provided, also,* That this act shall extend to such claims only as might have been enforced specifically against such ship, vessel, or other property in any loyal State wherein such claim arose.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That a final judgment or decree in any suit in the highest court of law or equity of a State in which a decision in the suit could be had in any case specified in the twenty-fifth section of the act entitled "An act to establish the judicial courts of the United States," approved September twenty-fourth, seventeen hundred and eighty-nine, may be re-examined and reversed or affirmed in the Supreme Court of the United States upon a writ of error, as in said act provided, irrespective of the sum or value of the matter in dispute.

Approved, March 3, 1863.

[PUBLIC—No. 70.]

AN ACT to recognize the courts in the district of Columbia, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be established in the district of Columbia, a court to be called the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, which shall have general jurisdiction in law and equity. It shall consist of four justices, one of whom shall be denominated as chief justice. These justices shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall hold their offices during good behavior. Each justice, before he enters upon the duties of his office, shall take the oath prescribed to be taken by judges of the courts of the United States. Any three of said justices may hold a general term, and any one of them may hold a special term, or circuit court, as hereinafter provided. A special term may be held at the same time with a circuit court and by the same justice.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the said court shall have power to appoint a clerk, who shall take the oath, and give a bond, with sureties, in the manner prescribed by law for clerks of district courts of the United States.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the supreme court organized by this act shall possess the same powers and exercise the same jurisdiction as is now possessed and exercised by the circuit court of the District of Columbia, and the justices of the court so to be organized shall severally possess the powers and exercise the jurisdiction now possessed and exercised by the judges of said circuit court. Any one of said justices may hold a district court of the United States for the District of Columbia, in the same manner and with the same powers and jurisdiction possessed and exercised by other district courts of the United States. Any one of said justices may also hold a criminal court for the trial of all crimes and offences arising within said district, which court shall possess the same powers and exercise the same jurisdiction now possessed and exercised by the criminal court of the District of Columbia.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That general terms of the supreme court shall be held at the same times at which terms of the circuit court of the District of Columbia are now required to be held, and at the same place. District courts and criminal courts shall also be held by one of said justices at the several times when such courts are now required by law to be held, and at the same place.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That special terms of said supreme court shall be held by one of said justices, at such time or times as the said court, in general term, shall appoint. Non-enumerated motions in all suits and proceedings at law and in equity shall first be heard and determined at such special terms. Suits in equity, not triable by jury, shall also be heard and determined at such special terms; but the justice holding such special term may, in his discretion, order any such motion or suit to be heard, in the first instance, at a general term. Any party aggrieved by any order, judgment, or decree, made or pronounced at any such special term, may, if the same involve the merits of the action or proceeding, appeal therefrom to the general term of said supreme court, and upon such appeal the general term shall review such order, judgment, or decree, and affirm, reverse, or modify the same as shall be just.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the said court, in general term, shall adopt such rules as it may think proper to regulate the time and manner of making appeals from the special term to the general term, and may prescribe the terms and conditions upon which such appeals may be made. Such court may also establish such other rules as it may deem necessary for regulation of the practice of the several courts organized by this act, and from time to time revise and alter such rules. It may also determine by rule what motions shall be heard at a special term, as non-enumerated motions, and what motions shall be heard at a general term in the first instance.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That all issues of fact triable by a jury or by the court shall be tried before a single justice, when the trial is by jury, at a circuit court, and when the trial is without a jury, at a circuit court or special term. Issues of law may be tried at a circuit court or special term. At any time after issue, and at least ten days before the sitting of the court, either party may give notice of trial. The party giving the notice shall furnish the clerk, at least four days before the sitting of the court, with a note of the issue, containing the title of the action, the names of the attorneys, and the time when the last pleading was served; and the clerk shall thereupon enter the cause upon a calendar, according to the date of the issue.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That if, upon the trial of a cause, an exception be taken, it be reduced to writing at the time, or it may be entered on the minutes of the justice, and afterwards settled in such manner as may be provided by the rules of the court, and then stated in writing in a case or bill of exceptions, with so much of the evidence as may be material to the questions to be raised, but such case or bill of exceptions need not be sealed or signed. The justice who tries the cause may, in his discretion, entertain a motion, to be made on his minutes, to set aside a verdict and grant a new trial upon exceptions, or for insufficient evidence, or for excessive damages; *Provided,* That such motion be made at the same term or circuit at which the trial was had. When such motion is made and heard upon the minutes, an appeal to the general term may be taken from the decision, in which case a bill of exceptions or case shall be settled in the usual manner.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted,* That a motion for a new trial on a case or bill of exceptions, and an application for judgment on a special verdict or a verdict taken subject to the opinion of the court, shall be heard in the first instance at a general term.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted,* That writs and process issued out of the court hereby organized may be tested in the name of any justice of said court.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted,* That any final judgment, order, or decree of said court may be re-examined and reversed or affirmed in the Supreme Court of the United States, upon writ of error or appeal, in the same cases and in like manner as is now provided by law in reference to the final judgments, orders, and decrees of the circuit court of the United States for the District of Columbia.

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted,* That appeals may be made from the judgments of justices of the peace to the court hereby organized in like manner and in the same cases in which such appeals are now allowed to the circuit court of the United States for the District of Columbia. Such appeals shall be heard and decided at a special term.

SEC. 13. *And be it further enacted,* That all suits and proceedings which, at the time this act takes effect, shall be pending in any of the courts hereby abolished shall be transferred to the courts to be established under the provisions of this act, and may be prosecuted therein with the same effect as they might have been in the court in which the same were commenced. Process issued out of any of said courts shall also be returned to the court hereby established.

SEC. 14. *And be it further enacted,* That justices of the peace may be removed by the court to be organized under the provisions of this act at a general term, after due notice, and an opportunity to be heard in their defence, and for causes to be assigned in the order of removal.

SEC. 15. *And be it further enacted,* That the justices to be appointed by virtue of this act shall receive an annual salary of three thousand dollars, to be paid quarterly at the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 16. *And be it further enacted,* That the circuit court, district court, and criminal court of the District of Columbia, are hereby abolished. All laws and parts of laws relating to said courts, so far as the same are applicable to the courts created by this act, are hereby continued in force in respect to such courts, and all other laws and parts of laws relating to said circuit, district, and criminal courts are repealed.

SEC. 17. *And be it further enacted,* That the President of the United States be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a suitable person, learned in the law, to revise and codify the laws of the district of Columbia.

SEC. 18. *And be it further enacted,* That the person who shall be thus appointed shall receive ten dollars per day for his services whilst so employed, and shall render a final report of his revision and codification to Congress on or before the first day of January next.

Approved, March 3, 1863.

[PUBLIC—No. 71.]

AN ACT to amend "An act to establish a court for the investigation of claims against the United States," approved February twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and fifty-five.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, two additional judges for the said court, to hold their offices during good behavior, who shall be qualified in the same manner, discharge the same duties, and receive the same compensation, as now provided in reference to the judges of said court; and that from the whole number of said judges the President shall in like manner appoint a chief justice for said court.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That all petitions and bills praying or providing for the satisfaction of private claims against the Government, founded upon any law of Congress, or upon any regulation of an Executive Department, or upon any contract, express or implied, with the Government of the United States, shall unless otherwise ordered by resolution of the House in which the same are presented or introduced, be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House of Representatives, with all the accompanying documents, to the court aforesaid.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the said court, in addition to the jurisdiction now conferred by law, shall also have jurisdiction of all set-offs, counter claims, claims for damages, whether liquidated or unliquated, or other demands whatsoever, on the part of the Government against any person making claim against the Government in said court; and upon the trial of any such cause it shall hear and determine such claim or demand both for and against the Government and claimant; and if upon the whole case it finds that the claimant is indebted to the Government, it shall under [render] judgment to that effect, and such judgment shall be final, with the right of appeal, as in other cases herein provided for. Any transcript of such judgment, filed in the clerk's office of any district or circuit court of the United States, shall be entered upon the records of the same, and shall ipso facto become and be a judgment of such district or circuit court, and shall be enforced in like manner as other judgments therein.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the said Court of Claims shall hold one annual session, commencing on the first Monday in October in each year, and continuing so long as may be necessary for the prompt disposition of the business of the court. The said court may prescribe rules and regulations for practice therein and it may punish for contempt, in the manner prescribed by common law. It may appoint commissioners, and may generally exercise such powers as are necessary to carry out the powers herein granted to it. The judges, solicitors, and clerks of said court shall be admitted to the use of the Congressional library, and also the law library, until a law library be provided for them. The said court may appoint a bailiff, who shall hold his office during four years, unless sooner removed by said court for cause, and who shall receive a salary of one thousand dollars, payable quarterly. The judges and clerks of said court may administer oaths and affirmations, take acknowledgments of instruments in writing, and give certificates of the same. Said court shall have a seal, with such device as it may order. Members of either house of Congress shall not practice in said Court of Claims.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That either party may appeal to the Supreme Court of the United State from any final judgment or decree which may hereafter be rendered in any case by said court wherein the amount in controversy exceeds three thousand dollars, under such regulations as the said Supreme Court may direct: *Provided,* That such appeal shall be taken within ninety days after the rendition of such judgment or decree: *and provided, further,* That when the judgment or decree will affect a class of cases or furnish a precedent for the future action of any executive department of the Government in the adjustment of such class of cases, or a constitutional question, and such facts shall be certified to by the presiding justice of the Court of Claims, the Supreme Court shall entertain an appeal on behalf of the United States, without regard to the amount in controversy.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the solicitor, assistant solicitor, and deputy solicitor of said court, shall hereafter be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and it shall be their duty faithfully and diligently to defend the United States in all matters and cases before said Court of Claims; and in all cases taken by appeal therefrom to the Supreme Court; and no other fee or compensation than the salary of said solicitor, and assistant and deputy solicitors, shall hereafter, in any case, be paid to either of them, and no fee or compensation for services in either the Supreme Court or Court of Claims shall hereafter be allowed or paid in any case by the United States.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That in all cases of final judgments by said court, or on appeal by the said Supreme Court where the same shall be affirmed in favor of the claimant, the sum due thereby shall be paid out of any general appropriation made by law for the payment and satisfaction of private claims, on presentation to the Secretary of the Treasury of a copy of said judgment, certified by the clerk of said Court of Claims, and signed by the chief justice, or, in his absence, by the presiding judge of said court. And in cases where the judgment appealed from is in favor of said claimant, or the same is affirmed by the said Supreme Court, interest thereon at the rate of five per centum shall be allowed from the date of its presentation to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment as aforesaid, but no interest shall be allowed subsequent to the affirmance, unless presented for payment to the Secretary of the Treasury as aforesaid: *Provided,* That no interest shall be allowed on any claim up to the time of the rendition of the judgment by said Court of Claims, unless upon a contract expressly stipulating for the payment of interest, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, at the commencement of each Congress, to include in his report or [a] statement of all sums paid at the Treasury on such judgments, together with the names of the parties in whose favor the same were allowed: *and it is further provided,* That such payments shall be a full discharge to the United States of all claim or demand touching any of the matters involved in the controversy: *and provided further,* That any final judgment rendered against the claimant on any claim prosecuted as aforesaid shall forever bar any further claim or demand against the United States arising out of the matters involved in the controversy.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be lawful for said court, at the instance of the solicitor for the United States, to make an order in any case pending in said court, directing that the claimant or claimants in such case, or any one or more of them, shall appear, upon reasonable notice, before any commissioner of said court, and be examined on oath or affirmation touching any or all matters pertaining to said claim. And the examination of such claimant or claimants shall be reduced to writing by the said commissioner, and be returned to and filed in said court, and may, at the discretion of the solicitor for the United States, be read and used as evidence on the trial of said cause. And if any claimant or claimants, after such order has been made, and due and reasonable notice thereof given to him or them, shall fail to appear or shall refuse to testify or answer fully as to all matters within his knowledge material to the issue, the said court may, in its discretion, order that the said cause shall not be brought forward for trial until the said claimant or claimants shall have fully complied with the order of said court in the premises.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted,* That the jurisdiction of the said court shall not extend to or include any claim against the Government not pending in said court on the first day of December, anno Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-two, growing out of or dependent on any treaty stipulation entered into with foreign nations or with the Indian tribes.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted,* That every claim against the United States, cognizable by the Court of Claims, shall be forever barred unless the petition setting forth a statement of the claim be filed in the court or transmitted to it under the provisions of this act within six years after the claim first accrues; *Provided,* That claims which have accrued six years before the passage of this act shall not be barred if the petition be filed in the court or transmitted as aforesaid within three years after the passage of this act: *and provided, further,* That the claims of married women first accrued during marriage, of persons under the age of twenty-one years first accruing during minority, and of idiots, lunatics, insane persons, and persons beyond seas at the time the claim accrued, entitled to the claim, shall not be barred if the petition be filed in the court or transmitted, as aforesaid, within three years after the disability has ceased; but no other disability than those enumerated shall prevent any claim from being barred, nor shall any of the said disabilities operate cumulatively.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted,* That any person or persons who shall curruptly practice or attempt to practice any fraud against the United States in the proof, statement, establishment, or allowance of any claim, or any part of any claim against the United States, shall ipso facto forfeit the same to the Government; and it shall be the duty of the Court of Claims, in such cases to find specifically that such fraud was practiced or attempted to be practiced, and thereupon give judgment that such claim is forfeited to the Government, and that the claimant be forever barred from prosecuting the same. Appeals may be taken from the Court of Claims to the Supreme Court, in all such cases, on all questions of law, in the manner herein provided for appeals in other cases.

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted,* That any petition filed under this act shall be verified by the affidavit of the claimant, his agent, or attorney, stating that no assignment or transfer of said claim, or any part thereof, or any interest therein, has been made, except as in said petition stated; that said claimant is justly entitled to the amount therein claimed from the United States, after allowing all just credits and offsets; and that he belives the facts as stated in said petition are true: *Provided, however,* That in order to authorize the said Court to render a judgment in favor of any claimant, if a citizen of the United States, it shall be set forth in the petition that the claimant, and the original and every prior owner thereof where the claim has been assigned, has at all times borne true allegiance to the Government of the United States, and whether a citizen or not, that he has not in any way voluntarily aided, abetted, or given encouragement to rebellion against the [said] Government, which allegations may be traversed by the Government, and if on the trial such issue shall be decided against the claimant, his petition shall be dismissed.

SEC. 13. *And be it further enacted,* That all law and parts [of laws] inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 14. *And be it further enacted,* That no money shall be paid out of the Treasury for any claim passed upon by the Court of Claims till after an appropriation therefor shall be estimated for by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Approved, March 3, 1863.

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A 6 octave Hallet, Davis & Co., rosewood	135 00
A 6 octave Stodart, mahogany	80 00
A 6 octave Swift,	75 00
A 6 octave German	60 00
A 6 octave [illegible]	50 00
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FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 3.

Maryland Heights and Harper's Ferry.

Yesterday the associate press telegraph brought us what we at the time thought a very absurd story, told by a correspondent of the N. Y. *Herald,* to wit: that Gen. Hooker visited *Maryland Heights* on the 27th ult., and ordered that invaluable stronghold to be evacuated, &c. The correspondent of the N. Y. *Tribune,* writing on the same day, gives substantially the same statement, but with the very important difference that it was *Harper's Ferry, and not Maryland Heights,* which Gen. Hooker wished to evacuate. Harper's Ferry has no strategic value, for it is a post which cannot possibly be held by one party while the opposite party is in possession of Maryland Heights. We don't say that Gen. Hooker was right and Gen. Halleck wrong in the matter; but only that the question was a mere trifle compared with what the holding or relinquishing Maryland Heights would have been. Had Gen Hooker ordered the latter to be evacuated, we should have concluded that the man had gone mad. This disagreement between the two Generals may have had something to do with Gen. Hooker's retirement.

Strength of Lee's Army—109,000 Men Across the Potomac--Movements of Lee--Capture of his Dispatch-bearer--The Rebels Promised a Visit to Philadelphia--They Rely upon Copperhead Assistance.

Mr. Newbold, correspondent of the N. Y. *Tribune,* in a letter from Frederick, Md., dated June 28, says:

Lee's army is said to have now entirely crossed the Potomac, 109,000 strong, Longstreet's Corps being in the rear. Lee himself crossed last night at Shepherd's Ford, and slept at the house of a Mrs. Merchant, on the Road to Hagerstown, and four miles from the latter place.

An aid of Lee was captured yesterday with a dispatch to Ewell telling him to push on. It is to be hoped that the masses now levying for the defense of Pennsylvania will not only have competent field officers, but experienced line officers. Without these they will certainly get into confusion in a fight, and be at the mercy of the Confederate veterans. With them, their superior numbers and general intelligence will insure success, and they will operate to great advantage in conjunction with the Army of the Potomac.

Several prisoners from each rebel corps, recently captured by McReynold's cavalry near Harper's Ferry, state that their officers have promised them a visit to Philadelphia by this day week. The Rebel army place much confidence in the Copperheads, whom they expect to rise and aid them through the North, and especially in Pennsylvania. The Rebel force is great and effective. The times are grave.

According to trustworthy authorities, Richmond is now garrisoned by about 4,000 militia, under command of officers mostly either crippled or convalescent from wounds. There are, however, 8,000 men at Somersville, who could all be moved to Richmond within thirty-six hours; also several thousand at Petersburg, obtainable at very short notice, and a considerable force in North Carolina, who would soon be on hand in case of alarm. These behind the powerful fortifications of Richmond may render an attack by our forces on the Peninsula hazardous. Lee has left 14,000 at Winchester, who could also soon be transported there. Lee's penetration into Pennsylvania appears to give pleasure to many military men, who think his army will never return as an organised body. They cannot realize that such an old fox should thus expose himself.

Rapid Movements of the Army of the Potomac---Last Year's Marching and This---a Contrast.

A correspondent, referring to the late movements of the Army of the Potomac, says:

None who spent last fall in Washington can fail to recollect with what amazing deliberation the army advanced. Six miles a day was the average rate. But two days ago the 11th Corps,—in spite of disaster, once more assigned the right,—marched thirty-two miles in a single day!

On the streets of the old-fashioned Maryland town I met General Seth Williams, broad-faced and genial looking as ever, though the stumpy red beard has sadly changed the familiar appearance of the working man of McClellan's staff in the earlier days of the war. He had just made fifty miles without leaving the saddle.

From two such instances the movement can be inferred. The energy has been amazing, the rapidity of movement unprecedented in the East, and equaled only by such dashing operations in the West as Mitchell's advance into Alabama. Till the rebel army got thro' with its feints and blinds, Hooker lay quietly watching it. At last it is believed to have moved—instantly the whole Army of the Potomac is again in motion, and corps after corps comes jauntily up in fighting trim, and with a rapidity that must be as amazing to themselves as it certainly will be to the country when the facts can be fully told.

The Rebel Invasion.

A Washington correspondent writes:

It is positively stated by a person who derives his information through channels not easily accessible, but generally found to be trustworthy, that the invasion of the North is the work of the Copperheads or Peace Democrats; that an emissary of this traitorous faction visited Richmond a fortnight since, and while there urged Jeff. Davis to march an army into Pennsylvania and lay waste her fields and burn her towns. This, the Copperhead messenger said, was the only road to victory for the South. The latter part of the suggestion was too barbarous a policy for even Jeff. Davis to adopt, but convinced by his visitor's reasoning of the advantageousness of invading the North, he ordered Gen. Lee on his present hazardous campaign.

DURING the last passage of the Persia to Liverpool, a southern brave grossly insulted a passenger named Josephs. Josephs demanded an apology, when the desperado drew a bowie knife, as did eight or ten of his friends. Capt. Judkins, vainly appealing to them to put up their weapons, at length told them he would give them ten minutes to consider, and if at the end of that time their knives were not sheathed he would put them in irons for delivery to the American consel at Liverpool. They angrily bid him defiance. At the beginning of the ninth minute the captain, at the head of his crew, well armed, marched into the cabin. On their appearance the knives went quickly out of sight, and apologies were profuse.

THE NEW COMMANDER OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.—In the army, Gen. Meade's reputation is a high one. It is believed that a majority of the corps commanders who are to serve under him approve of his selection as Gen. Hooker's successor. Gen. Hooker himself has spoken of him as the best officer in his command. When Gen. Burnside asked to be relieved, he recommended Gen. Meade for the place he had filled, Gen. McClellan also has spoken of Gen. Meade's military abilities in the highest terms. It has long been thought that the command would eventually fall upon him.—*Washington dispatch.*

REV. OLIVER STEARNS, D. D., has resigned the Presidency of the Meadville Seminary, and is to take the chair of Professor of Divinity in Harvard College.

Responsibility for the Rebel Invasion--The Warning and its Neglect.

Writing on the 26th ult., from Washington, "Agate," of the Cincinnati *Gazette,* makes the following interesting statement:

The time has come when there is no longer an impropriety in revealing certain facts connected with the late and the present campaigns that intimately concern our judgment of both. The burden of these facts is, that neither Gen. Hooker nor the "war men" of the administration (as they have come to be known) are in anywise responsible for the policy that has rendered the present rebel invasion possible.

It will be remembered that, after the reverse at Chancellorville, much attention was directed by the journals in the interest of the Tory Democracy to the presence in Washington of Senators Wade, Wilson, Sumner and Chandler; and the "Abolition Junta" was described as at once bewildered by "the defeat of their favorite," and "industrious in schemes to prevent the return of"—the inevitable McClellan.

The Senators were occupied about much more important and practical business. They foresaw clearly what the certain result of inaction would be, and collectively pressed upon the Administration the warning that unless the Army of the Potomac were speedily re-enforced and placed on the offensive again, the rebels would undertake another campaign of invasion. It was within less than ten days after the Chancellorsville reverse that this impressive warning was given, and again and again repeated.

The Administration seemed to be convinced, but replied that it was impossible to reinforce Hooker. But it is not impossible, argued the Senators. Take your troops from Yorktown and Fortress Monroe and North Carolina; if need be from South Carolina even; leaving only garrisons sufficient to hold the fortified points. Scattered as they are, these troops are useless; concentrated upon the exhausted army at once, they may be able to drive it pell-mell through Richmond; and in any event they can keep it on the defensive.

General Hooker was of course eager for this course. Anxious to fight again, with or without reinforcements, it was natural that he should seek as much numerical assurance of success as possible. He had his plans for a new movement; they were discussed with the Senators, who wished him to see if hostilities could not be immediately resumed; and finally, through their agency, Gen. Hooker came to Washington, and held long consultations with the President, Secretary of War, and Gen. Halleck.

The result of those consultations was a decisive and successful opposition on the part of Gen. Halleck to every plan proposed.

Then followed a triumph of the Halleck policy, long weeks of inaction, the depletion of the army by the expiration of enlistments, the scantiest reinforcements, continued dispersion of troops, and, finally, and by the legitimate reference, the meddlesome senators had pointed out, invasion.

It is too early, perhaps, to pass any judgment on all this; fortunately, it is not too late to fix the facts; and justice alike to General Hooker, the senators, and the war members of the Cabinet, requires their statement now. Had the counsel of these gentlemen prevailed, it is not certain that we would have won perfect success; but it is certain that we would not have had the inaction which permitted, and, indeed, produced this invasion.

Changing Commanders.

"What did you mean, Sir?" fiercely asked a judge of an Irish culprit before him, who had just been brought in guilty of marrying successively fourteen wives and deserting them all. "Plase your Honor," was the immoral but ingenious reply, "I was trying to get a *good* one." The object was worth the trouble.

We believe every decided failure by a commander should be promptly followed by his displacement. This rule may sometimes work personal hardship, but of what consequence is any individual in comparison with the salvation of his country.

"But by whom shall he be replaced?" ask impotence and imbecility. We answer, by the best man whose services you can command. If he is no Marlborough, no Napoleon, that is not your fault.

And here is where we think the President has been judged harshly. He is blamed for the lack of genius in his commanders, in forgetfulness of the truth that the human race has in all history produced but a few really great Generals. Mr. Lincoln has been required to make brick, straw or no straw. Consider what an assortment of Generals we had, after Jeff. Davis had culled the lot for his own service, and you will judge him less severely.

But in every case failure should be followed by removal, and that forthwith. The successor can at the worst but fail. And, if he be superior in nothing else, he is superior in that he has not yet failed. And besides, each change brings the Coming Man one step nearer. If he is a corporal as yet, that change may make him a sergeant—who knows?

Gen. Hooker is a brave and loyal officer, and has distinguished himself by energy and coolness on many a battle-field. He did well in every station below the highest; but in that he failed—it matters little how or why—the fact is enough. He should have been superseded directly thereupon. To retain him an hour longer were cruel kindness to him and little less than treason to the country.

Gen. Meade assumes command at a critical moment, but we trust he will prove equal to its great responsibilities. He is a thorough soldier, who enjoys the confidence of his brother officers, and is unembarrassed by the hostility of the McClellan interest in the Army or elsewhere. While Gen. McClellan was his commander, he rendered him a most hearty and unquestioning support, and he has never since breathed a sentence of disparaging criticism. His appointment seems every way judicious; and his generalship will be judged fairly on its merits. That, we are confident, is all he asks. His singularly quiet and modest order in assuming command will challenge wide and hearty approbation.—*New York Tribune.*

Soldiers, Take Heed.

Sir Colin Campbell, now Lord Clyde, an old soldier who had gathered his warlike experience in many battles of European and Asiatic campaigns, addressed his young soldiers in the battle of the Alma in words which form a sort of catechism of the soldier's duty in action. Kinglake, in his Invasion of the Crimea, gives the brief address of the veteran, which is copied here, but printed in separate lines:

"Now, men you are going into action. Remember this:

"Whoever is wounded—I don't care what his rank is—whoever is wounded must lie where he falls until the bandsmen come to attend to him. No soldier must go carrying off wounded men. If any soldier does such a thing, his name shall be stuck up in the parish church.

"Don't be in a hurry about firing. Your officers will tell you when it is time to open fire.

"Be steady.

"Keep silence.

"Fire low.

"Now, men, the army will watch us; make me proud of the Highland Brigade."

AN answer was given by the President to the Ohio Democratic Committee on Monday. The President agreed to release Vallandigham upon certain conditions, to be agreed to by the Committee. They were not authorized to make such agreement, and asked time (which was granted) to confer with the New York Copperheads.

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