The Press.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1864.

Our Soldiers and the Rebel Prisons.

Our correspondent from Annapolis, whose letter published to-day will startle the public, has admitted that he is unable to describe the suffering of our returned soldiers from the rebel prisons, yet the picture he has drawn of their condition seems too terrible to be true. But the story is not exaggerated. It presents merely the vague outlines of that gigantic horror which the most vivid imagination is unable to conceive. For months the rumors and isolated facts which have reached the North of the condition of our prisoners in the rebel States have aroused a universal indignation and sympathy to which this revelation will give new strength.

Our soldiers are just. Long suffering has not made them vindictive, and they admit that from the veterans of the rebel army they had good treatment. They speak in high praise of the efforts made by many of the rebel surgeons to lessen their misery; but their testimony and condition are conclusive proof that they have been subjected to cruelties which would do credit to the invention of the fiends. The Northern farmer gives his dog better food and lodging than our soldiers received from the jailors of the rebellion. They were shot down by their guards for sport, or because their mere shadows in the sun passed beyond established lines. The punishment for slight offences was often deprivation of food and water; on the protence that a tunnel was being dug to enable the prisoners to escape, the jailors at Andersonville stopped the rations of the entire camp for three days, and many men who had been half starving for weeks perished. This was wholesale murder officially sanctioned, and the wantonness of the barbarity is disclosed by the fact that no tunnel had been dug. Sick men were denied medicine; dead men were refused coffins, and buried in tiers three deep in shallow graves. Fuel, food, water, clothing, could not be obtained by quantities sufficient to support life. In these pens Death revelled in carnival, and not the least hideous part of the horrid pageant was the rebel recruiting officer with his bribe of a crust of bread. To the strong man starving, the choice was only between treason and the grave, and many a soldier who had entered the Union army for his country's sake alone now levels his gun against it. Who shall blame him for the act?

These sufferers have acquitted the veteran rebel soldiers of guilt in this matter, and we absolve the people of the South. Common faith in humanity forbids us to believe that they knew of the Satanic tortures inflicted by their agents. But the rebel Government is convicted of this diabolism. The blood of the martyrs stains the brow of every man in authority who knew of their agony and did not try to lessen it. It is known that the very surgeons in the rebel service revealed the condition of the prisons to the Richmond Government, and petitioned for food, medicine, and clothing. The Government knew the miseries of its prisoners. The Pandemonium of Belle Isle shamed its own capital. The evidence of its own cruelty was forced upon it. Yet, with a deliberate indifference or a calculating malignity, it established this prison system, and for more than two years has increased its severity and added to its horrors. Can it plead poverty as an excuse for the starvation of its prisoners? No. It boasts of its resources, and its refutation of the theory of its military exhaustion points to the granaries of Georgia and Alabama, the blockade-runners of Great Britain, and the commissariat of its armies.

Congress and the Lobby.

The present Congress is assailed by a peculiar temptation. This is its last session, and many of its members not elected to the new Congress are unlikely to feel the responsibility felt by those who will remain in the public service. Experience shows that it is to the last sessions of our Congressional terms that we owe most of our bad laws and imperfect legislation. There will be all the more reason why the good men in both Houses should earnestly address themselves to business, and sternly resist the immense outside pressure that will be felt the moment the revision of the internal revenue laws is begun.

Mr. FESSENDEN has shown the importance of increasing the taxes on many articles that now pay a lighter duty than they should rightly bear, and his estimates require that Internal Revenue next year should produce three hundred millions of dollars. This increase of taxation is demanded by the public interests, and endorsed by the judgment of the people, and Congress is bound to secure it. But it is already apparent that influential combinations of interested manufacturers are at work to reduce the taxes on their commodities below the present rates. The distillers are likely to be the first in the field. Commissioner LEWIS, in his report, estimates the annual yield of our distilleries at about one hundred millions of gallons, and that the national income from spirits will be, if the tax is not lowered, about eighty millions of dollars in the next year. The vast power which Whisky wields can be measured by these figures, and if Congress does not stand firm it will stagger under the blow. If it submits to the Lobby, it will betray the great interests entrusted to it, and revive that wretched system of a vascillating and backsliding Revenue Law, which has worked so much injury to the country. If the excise on distilled spirits is to be touched at all, let it be increased. We cannot afford to sacrifice one dollar of our present income, or to neglect one opportunity of increasing it.

The Sanitary Commission.

The United States has not only revolutionized the system of naval warfare, and taught European nations a military lesson on which they are likely to improve, but it has shown how the most destructive of wars may be carried on with the highest purposes of mercy, and to what a wonderful extent the horrors of the battle-field may be lessened by the energies of charity. Over the whole theatre of death, clouded with smoke and illumined by fire, has hovered, from the beginning of the great struggle, the angel of peace. The loyal States, in creating and sustaining the United States Sanitary Commission, put European civilization to the blush. England or France never dreamed of such an institution as this, which, supported solely by voluntary contributions, has, from June, 1861, to October, 1864, received the vast sum of *three millions and eighty thousands of dollars*, of which nearly all has been already expended in ministering to the wants of our soldiers. In this great work it had no precedent, it has no rival, and it stands to-day as the chosen instrument of our national philanthropy, and the revelation of the spirit in which we carry on this war. We believe the Sanitary Commission still receives ample support from the country, and its latest report shows that at the beginning of this month its treasury had a balance of $851,000. Managed with integrity and ability, the Commission has faithfully used the immense sums entrusted to it, and thoroughly deserves the confidence and contributions of the nation.

The value of the Commission does not end with the comfort it gives to our soldiers. Its agents have collected many interesting and valuable facts concerning our armies, upon which the Government has repeatedly established important reforms in our military system. The history of the war must be largely written from its documents. A special committee appointed by the Commission has visited this week the returned prisoners at Annapolis, Md., and will soon present a report which will give to the world the true condition of the rebel prisons. It is in this way that the Sanitary Commission is constantly extending its usefulness and strengthening its claim upon the nation to which it is an honor.

THE OPINIONS of the English papers upon the result of the Presidential election were not difficult to predict. The enemies of the Union are profoundly disappointed, though journals such as the *Morning Herald* affect to "rejoice in the defeat of General MCCLELLAN as a prelude to the defeat of the North." But all the friends of freedom feel new hope and higher confidence, and throughout all Europe the cause of tyranny is weakened by the triumph in America.

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, December 9.

THE TRIAL OF COL. NORTH POSTPONED.

The trial of Col. North, the New York State agent, is further postponed till December 20th, at the instance of the Government counsel.

SECRETARY STANTON'S REPORT.

The report of the Secretary of War is not yet ready for transmission to Congress.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE.

The standing committees of the House of Representatives appointed at the first session continue throughout the Congress.

THE WEATHER.

There was a slight fall of snow here this evening about eight o'clock.

THE WAR.

GEN. GRANT'S ARMY.

IMPORTANT MOVEMENT IN PROGRESS.

GENERAL GRANT'S ARMY.

AN IMPORTANT MOVEMENT COMMENCED—THE 2D AND 5TH CORPS ON THE MARCH TOWARD STONY CREEK—ENTHUSIASM OF THE MEN—STRENGTH OF OUR ARMY.

CITY POINT, VA., Dec. 8, 1864.

It cannot be contraband now to state that a movement of an important character was commenced upon the left yesterday. On Monday afternoon the 5th and 2d Army Corps, commanded by Generals Crawford and Humphreys, received orders to be prepared to move at a moment's intimation. Instantly a scene of bustle and excitement ensued in the camps, and the men gave vent to their enthusiasm by dancing, singing, and whistling; for the prospect of a fight after such long inactivity, was more cheering to their hearts than the news that another feast of turkeys was en route for them could possibly have been. The idea of deserting their comfortable winter quarters at this variable season of the year, was not quite so palatable to some of the officers, who had become endeared to their cosy little log cabins, and blazing fires in the smug chimney-places; but the order had to be obeyed, and one and all began to pack up, with a factitious jest or a lugubrous smile. Tuesday afternoon came the order to move, and in ten minutes after its reception the regiments of the 5th Corps were in motion to the rear. The order directed the two corps to mass between the Halifax and Jerusalem plank roads. These two roads run in the same general direction as the Weldon Railroad, the former being to the left, and the latter to the right of it. Here the troops were encamped for the night, of course without any other protection from the weather than their blankets and overcoats afforded. In a little while, however, the camp grounds were lit up with hundreds of fires, which, cracking and sparkling amid the cedar boughs, made a brilliant and picturesque scene. As to their destination, the most contradictory opinions were held among officers and men. The favorite idea seemed to be that they were to march down to Savannah, and reinforce Sherman. Others held to the opinion that Wilmington, N. C., was to be the "objective point," and others talked of Weldon. But all were wrong.

Early yesterday morning the men were wakened by a drenching shower of rain, which, extinguishing their camp-fires, made them utterly miserable for a little while, until they stirred about and warmed themselves with exercise. Long before daybreak they took up their line of march, and not towards the South-Side road, where all would have chosen to go, but southward, towards Stony Creek Station. The roads were in a shocking condition, but they made excellent progress, and although the rain fell pitilessly, the ardor of the men seemed to be but little cooled.

The apprehensions of the rebels of another advance against Stony Creek, now a vital point to the enemy, have thus been confirmed, and doubtless they have despatched troops to the threatened point, even before our movement was commenced. The arrival of Early from the Valley has enabled them to do this without weakening their lines in our front. Meanwhile, our own lines have not been weakened, for the army has been materially reinforced of late, and is to-day, perhaps, as strong as it ever was.

We shall probably learn to-day fully concerning the success of this movement. That it *will* be successful, none here entertain a doubt.

ACTIVITY NORTH OF THE JAMES—FIRING AT DUTCH GAP—THE REBELS EXPECTING AN ATTACK.

[By the Associated Press.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Dec. 7, P. M.—This has been a calm day along the lines in front of Petersburg. Some little picket firing was indulged on the right of the lines, but the artillery on both sides was very quiet.

Considerable activity prevailed in the lines north of the James river, to-day, but the rain storm which set in early this morning seemed to have put a stop to warlike changes, if any, were intended.

Firing was kept up at Dutch Gap all day, as usual, but not with such persistency as it was conducted yesterday.

The Richmond papers of to-day contain no news from Eastern Georgia or Tennessee.

They seem to have anticipated a battle in front of Richmond for the past two or three days, and have evidently been preparing to resist our advance.

December 8, 8 o'clock, A. M.—All is quiet this morning. W. D. McG.

THE WAR IN TENNESSEE.

THE REPORTED DISASTERS ON THE CUMBERLAND—FALSE—TRANSPORTS TAKEN THROUGH UNDER CONVOY.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 8.—The *Democrat's* Paducah special despatch of the 7th says that all the stories about disasters on the Cumberland river are wholly untrue. The river is clear and unobstructed to Clarksville, to which point the transports ran without convoy. From Clarksville to Nashville they are convoyed by gunboats, there being several rebel batteries between the two points.

SKIRMISHING NEAR NASHVILLE—THE REBELS DRIVEN BACK TO THEIR OLD LINE—DEPARTURE OF A REBEL BRIGADE TOWARDS MURFREESBORO.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 9.—The *Journal* special despatch from Nashville on the 8th says:

"There is no change in the general situation. Skirmishing continues in the front of the 4th Corps, and the enemy has been driven back to his old line. Prisoners report that Cheatham commands the rebel right, S. D. Lee the centre, and Stewart the left. They say Lee has four batteries of four guns, each in position.

"A rebel brigade left in the direction of Murfreesboro, but it is not known whether for foraging or to attack Murfreesboro.

"One of our batteries on Steadman's front opened this morning, but elicited no reply.

"General T. J. Wood retains command of the 4th Corps. Couch takes command of a division in the 23d Corps."

A Nashville despatch of this morning to the *Journal* says thereis no change in affairs around the city.

Burbridge and his command were at Bean's Station, in East Tennessee, on the 6th inst.

THE GUNBOATS ENGAGING THE ENEMY—THE REBELS DRIVEN BACK FROM THE RIVER—THE CITY CONSIDERED SAFE.

NASHVILLE, Dec. 9.—The weather is very cold. There is nothing new from the front to-day. There was some sharp musketry firing in front of the 4th Corps, and several were wounded on both sides.

The gunboat fleet went down the river to-day, but no reports have been received save that they engaged the enemy some thirty minutes after leaving here.

A heavy storm of snow set in this morning.

The rebel lines in our front appear intact, and there are no indications of their making an attack or of running away. The excitement in town has nearly subsided, and no apprehensions are felt for the safety of the city.

The gunboats went down the river again to-day, to a point where the rebel batteries are located, engaged them, and drove the rebels back from the river; after which they returned to the city.

BURBRIDGE'S MOVEMENT IN EAST TENNESSEE—BRECKINRIDGE COMPELLED TO WITHDRAW BEYOND BULL'S GAP.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 9.—General Burbridge is at Bean's Station, in East Tennessee, and in good spirits. This move of Burbridge, on Breckinridge's flank has compelled the latter to withdraw his entire force beyond Bull's Gap, excepting a small cavalry detachment. Vaughn was reported at Chucky Bend with cavalry, and Bushrod Johnson at Jonesboro, but both reports are considered doubtful.

SHERMAN.

REBEL REPORTS—A PLAN OF HIS CAMPAIGN LAID OUT—HIS ARRIVAL AT SAVANNAH ON THE 9TH EXPECTED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Information received from City Point to-day says that Southern papers, the dates of which are not given, but probably the latest, report that Sherman had abandoned the shortest route for Augusta, and appears to be drifting towards Savannah. He was delaying for the purpose of gathering supplies, while his territorial range was not too contracted by the operations of Wheeler.

The Augusta *Constitutionalist* thinks that he has not for a moment hesitated as to the point to be attacked, or the road to it, saying: "The enemy broke camp at Louisville early in the morning of the 2d instant, abandoning the shortest route to Augusta, moving by a new route in the direction of Savannah."

The *Constitutionalist* lays out the following campaign for him, being the most natural and feasible one. Forage and provision trains being full, he will pass his entire army to Millen; then throwing his cavalry in the rear, he will put his wagon trains between the two wings of his army and march in a compact column steadily but cautiously on the city of Savannah; the Ogeechee and its few crossings and terrible swamps on his right, and the Savannah river and its equally swampy banks on the left, both flanks will be most securely covered, and thus situated, he has a march of something over 80 miles to the city.

Travelling at the rate he had averaged since leaving Atlanta, he would reach there by the 9th, provided he should not be checked by the way.

The Oconee bridge had not been burned, although desperate efforts had been made.

The Richmond *Enquirer* of the 7th reports that no new movement had been made in the direction of Grahamsville. The Federal troops engaged consisted of four regiments of whites and four of blacks. About 1,500 men were found on the field dead and wounded.

KENTUCKY.

ARREST OF GAMBLERS—IMPRESSMENT OF HORSES—GUERILLA OPERATIONS—BRECKINRIDGE.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 9.—There was considerable excitement here yesterday from the arrest of gamblers and the impressment of horses. The street cars are temporarily stopped for want of motive power. A gang of Gentry's men took possession of Lagrange yesterday afternoon, injuring the railroad so as to disarrange the trains for a few days. The *Journal* says: "It is our impression that Breckinridge will turn up in a new and unexpected quarter before long."

THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI.

SUCCESSFUL EXPEDITION INTO MISSISSIPPI—THE CENTRAL RAILROAD DESTROYED FOR THIRTY MILES.

VICKSBURG, Dec. 4, via CAIRO, Dec. 9.—Major General Dana, by a successful expedition from Vicksburg, destroyed the Mississippi Central Railroad for thirty miles above Big Black crossing, including Long Bridge. At that place the enemy were found in force, but the work was thoroughly done, and the troops returned to Vicksburg with a loss of five killed and forty-one wounded. Two thousand five hundred bales of Confederate cotton, and about $500,000 worth of property were destroyed.

CANADA.

POSTPONEMENT OF BURLEIGH'S CASE—THE STEAMER GEORGIAN SEARCHED.

TORONTO, Dec. 8.—In the Lake Erie case, to-day the rebel Burleigh applied for a month's postponement to obtain evidence from Richmond. A decision will be given to-morrow.

On her arrival at Collingwood, the steamer Georgian was searched, but nothing contraband was found on her.

THE CASE OF CAPTAIN BURLEIGH.

TORONTO, Dec. 9.—Capt. Burleigh's application for a month's postponement of his trial, to get evidence from Richmond, has been granted.

DETROIT.

THE INTENDED RAID—THE PLOT FRUSTRATED.

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 9.—Positive information is in possession of the authorities that a rebel raid on this city is contemplated. The plot was to have culminated last night, but was frustrated by timely warning and vigilance. Large numbers of special police are on duty, and the city military companies are patrolling the city.

EUROPE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—The steamship Hansa, from Southampton on the 23d, arrived at this port to-day.

The steamship Canada arrived out on the 21st, and the Hibernia on the 22d.

Eaton & Gardner, merchants, have suspended, with liabilities amounting to £30,000.

REPORTED LOSS OF SEMMES' NEW SHIP.

A despatch dated at Southampton on Thursday evening, November 22, says: "There is a report that Captain Semmes' new steamer, the Sea King, has been wrecked off Madeira."

Concerning the pirate fleet, we find in the Paris *Pays*, a rebel organ, some information which we translate. The *Pays* says: "It seems certain that Captain Semmes, of the Alabama, is on board a ship bearing a strong resemblance to a pirate which may easily be made a formidable corsair. Captain Semmes left Madeira on the Eurol, with eighty men, most of them belonging to his crew. The new ship is called the Sea King. When, where, or how will she be armed? No one can tell. But the best it does by the possession of the ship, and it will not be hard for the captain and his crew to arm her."

A Liverpool paper of Nov. 17th says: "We received yesterday a letter from a party on the crew of the Sea-King, who came to England on the Calabar, just arrived from the coast of Africa and Madeira. This letter informs us that the Sea-King is now called the Shenandoah, and that Captain Semmes was to take command of her. These men add that the Sea-King had raised a Confederate flag, and that one of them had been offered eighteen pounds sterling a month if he would join her."

Reports from Halifax have stated that the new pirate was to be commanded, not by Capt. Semmes, but by Lieut. Waddell.

THE BLOCKADE AND BRITISH OFFICERS.

The London *Army and Navy Gazette* says: "In consequence of the recent capture by a Federal cruiser of a distinguished officer of her Majesty's navy, while in command of a blockade runner, Mr. Seward addressed representations through Lord Lyons to her Majesty's Government, which have led to a stringent order on the subject. The Admiralty have caused it to be notified to the officers employed in the service, that the peaceful pursuit of commerce by blockade-running, that they cannot countenance such employment of their vessel hours. Although all the officers referred to are on half pay, it was plainly most unbecoming for them, as long as they drew even half pay, to engage in acts which subjected them to pains and penalties at the hands of the authorities of a friendly State, while they were at the same time treating with contempt the Queen's proclamation of neutrality, which, binding on all good subjects, had especial claims to observance from officers in her Majesty's pay."

THE FLORIDA AND MR. WEBB'S LETTER.

The *Times* says:

"It is fortunate for the peace of the world that the English nation is not easily moved by unseemly language, but, content with resistance to actual wrong, permits words, however offensive, to pass by without regard. Happily for us we can resolve to abstain from interference in the affairs of an agitated continent while we be weakened by any taunts or invectives coming from Americans, however highly placed. For this reason we may regard the answer of Mr. Watson Webb, the United States minister at Rio Janeiro, to the Brazilian Government, in the affair of the Florida, as a matter of not the slightest political importance, and as only showing the temper in which certain men representing the most powerful section of America are accustomed to think and talk of us. The capture of the Florida in Bahia harbor was an outrage for which no ability could find a justification; the wrong was so gross and palpable that Mr. Webb could not but repudiate complicity in it."

DANISH AFFAIRS.

The King of Denmark has issued the following proclamation releasing the people of the ceded duchies from their allegiance to the Danish crown:

"We, Christian IX., by God's grace King of Denmark, &c., announce that by the treaty of peace, signed at Vienna on the 30th of last month, we have renounced, in favor of their Majesties the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia, our rights to the duchies of Lauenburg and Holstein, and to the duchy of Schleswig south of the boundary line more precisely laid down in article 5 of the treaty, with the exception, however, of the island of Ærroe. As we have promised in conformity with the aforesaid treaty, we now release, by this our present proclamation, the inhabitants of all the territories thus ceded, in general and in particular, from the fidelity, as subjects, they owe to us, as well as from the oath of allegiance each has specially taken to our person, whether he be civilian or in military service, clergyman or layman.

"Given at our capital of Copenhagen this 16th day of November, 1864, under our royal hand and seal. "CHRISTIAN R.

"BLUHMM."

Another proclamation from the King contains this monitory passage:

"It became, therefore, our hard fate to conclude a peace which annihilated the brightest hopes with which we received the crown—to preserve it entire and unimpaired as it has been worn for centuries by the Danish royal house. It became our sad fate to see the monarchy divided, and the country which had formed part of the ancient Danish realm from time immemorial, and which a thousand years of battle had not been able to tear from it, separated from us. But the hardest trial of all to us has been to know that portions of the kingdom itself, and the largest portion of that population in Schleswig which belongs to Denmark by heart and by language, have been compelled to declare themselves severed from the mother country and race."

The King and Queen will visit Jutland after the evacuation is completed.

THE FRENCH BUDGET.

The Paris *Moniteur* says the ordinary budget is now before the Council of State; the extraordinary budget will be forthcoming later.

There are rumors on the Bourse that a public loan will soon be introduced.

ITALY.

The proposal to transfer the capital to Naples has been vetoed. The bill for the transfer of the capital to Florence was passed by a vote of 137 to 77.

The entire financial bill was agreed to by 137 to 77.

Signor Della Marmora declared that Italy could defend herself, adding that it was greatly to the interest of France not to allow Italy to be crushed.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

At the opening of the General Sessions, congratulations were addressed to Prince Couza.

PRUSSIA.

Lord Napier presented his credentials to the King as ambassador.

The sentence of death and confiscation of the property of seven Poles has been passed.

JAPAN.

Prince Nagato has agreed to open Simonosaki Straits, and not rebuild the demolished forts, and also to pay the allied expedition its expenses.

SPAIN.

The Duke of Rivas has resigned the presidency of the Council. The Marquis Vilumas has succeeded him.

The *Epoca* says that Spain's duty is to defend the Papacy by coming to an understanding with France.

Mr. Mon has accepted the ambassadorship to France.

The ship Wappo, from Portland for Sagua, was capsized. The crew were saved, and have arrived in England.

The steamers Canada and Hibernian arrived out on the 21st ult.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

The London *Morning Star* says of the re-election of Mr. Lincoln:

"We hail the result, mainly because it is a triumph of the anti-slavery principles which the English people have long professed, and which have now been proclaimed by a popular vote to be the only principles upon which the Government of the United States can be conducted.

* * * "Mr. Lincoln has been elected by a party which declares that slavery shall be extinct, and that they have returned to Congress the requisite two-thirds majority to carry the proposed amendment of the Constitution prohibiting slavery forever on the soil of the United States. The war must now continue, as it would have done under the Presidency of McClellan, but for higher and nobler purposes. It is for no more perpetuation or restoration of the Union, with all the enormities of slave-breeding, slave-trading, and slave labor which formerly shocked humanity. The rebellion will, doubtless, be subdued, and in place of the fire and sword which usually follow in the track of conquest, the South will gain the blessings of free labor, the crack of the slaveriver's whip will cease throughout the land, and under the benign influence of completed emancipation the Southern people will reap a prosperity of which they had scarcely dared to dream.

"Even for results so conspicuously great as these the Northern freemen would not have been justified in drawing the sword in an aggressive war, but since the South chose the weapon and the combat, and sought to trample under foot alike the constitutional rights and to destroy the most cherished privileges of the people of the North, they would have been false to themselves and humanity had they not resolved to smite slavery—that master spirit of civil discord and social wrong—to the earth, so that the Republic might never more be subject to its malignant influence.

"Mr. Lincoln has undoubtedly deserved well of his country. Few men could have grasped the helm with so firm a grasp during a civil conflict so painful, and so full of novel new cages. He is, it is true, neither distinguished by hereditary descent, nor by personal accomplishments; he was changeable and vacillating in practical pursuits, and failed to show the temper in which certain men representing the most powerful section of America are accustomed to think and talk of us. The capture of the Florida in Bahia harbor was an outrage for which no ability could find a justification; the wrong was so gross and palpable that Mr. Webb could not but repudiate complicity in it."

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* * * "Mr. Lincoln has been elected by a party which declares that slavery shall be extinct, and that they have returned to Congress the requisite two-thirds majority to carry the proposed amendment of the Constitution prohibiting slavery forever on the soil of the United States. The war must now continue, as it would have done under the Presidency of McClellan, but for higher and nobler purposes. It is for no more perpetuation or restoration of the Union, with all the enormities of slave-breeding, slave-trading, and slave labor which formerly shocked humanity. The rebellion will, doubtless, be subdued, and in place of the fire and sword which usually follow in the track of conquest, the South will gain the blessings of free labor, the crack of the slaveriver's whip will cease throughout the land, and under the benign influence of completed emancipation the Southern people will reap a prosperity of which they had scarcely dared to dream.

"Even for results so conspicuously great as these the Northern freemen would not have been justified in drawing the sword in an aggressive war, but since the South chose the weapon and the combat, and sought to trample under foot alike the constitutional rights and to destroy the most cherished privileges of the people of the North, they would have been false to themselves and humanity had they not resolved to smite slavery—that master spirit of civil discord and social wrong—to the earth, so that the Republic might never more be subject to its malignant influence.

"Mr. Lincoln has undoubtedly deserved well of his country. Few men could have grasped the helm with so firm a grasp during a civil conflict so painful, and so full of novel new cages. He is, it is true, neither distinguished by hereditary descent, nor by personal accomplishments; he was changeable and vacillating in practical pursuits, and failed to show the temper in which certain men representing the most powerful section of America are accustomed to think and talk of us. The capture of the Florida in Bahia harbor was an outrage for which no ability could find a justification; the wrong was so gross and palpable that Mr. Webb could not but repudiate complicity in it."

The London *Morning Herald* (Tory) is grieved. It says:

"Mr. Lincoln did not owe his reappointment as Republican candidate to any belief in his personal merit, but to accidental circumstances, which had made it evident that any other candidate would divide the party and insure the success of the Democrats. He owes his re-election to the strength of his party and to his own lawless abuse of Executive power, not to the belief of the people that to letter man could have been chosen, or that he deserves the distinction of a second term of office. His predecessors were gentlemen; men of some experience either in military, diplomatic, or political life; men at least of average intelligence and of unquestioned personal integrity; yet they were through and rightly thought, not to have merited re-election. Mr. Lincoln is a vulgar, brutal boor; wholly ignorant of political science, of military affairs, of everything else which a statesman should know. He has not connived at peculation; but he has allowed the public to be robbed to an indefinite extent by his ministers, he has shielded them from punishment, continued them in office, and in the only case in which the scandal was too bad to be hushed up at home he appointed the party to a first-class consulcy.

* * * "For our own part, we rejoice in the defeat of General McClellan as a prelude to the defeat of the North. We rejoice that the cause of oppression, robbery, and injustice is entrusted to the hands of a vascillating, helpless imbecile rather than to those of an able, resolute, and efficient soldier. Nor do we think that the hopes of peace have been seriously impaired by Mr. Lincoln's success. Peace depends not on the wishes of a man, but on the disposition of the nation. So long as the North was resolute in the prosecution of the war, neither General McClellan nor even Mr. Vallandigham could have made peace. So soon as the North shall be heartily sick of the war, convinced that victory is impossible, and eager to compromise even on the basis of Southern independence, peace will have become necessary to Mr. Lincoln, and could not be long delayed by a Summer or a Brownlow. We believe that nothing could tend more strongly to bring about such a state of things as will effectually disconcert the war party, and dispose the North to abandon its hopeless enterprise, than the continuance of Mr. Lincoln's rule; and in that belief we hail his re-election as an event of excellent augury for the interests of the South and of mankind."

The *Times* says of the Presidential election:

"We have no reason, as impartial bystanders, to complain of the re-election of Mr. Lincoln, and we see no reason for alarm; nay, it may probably be that we have more to fear in the hands of Mr. Lincoln than we should be in the hands of any one else. As regards foreign States, ourselves in particular, we may reasonably believe that he has sown his wild oats; he has gone through the course of defying and insulting England, which is the traditional way of obtaining the Irish vote, and we may not unreasonably hope that he is unlikely to repeat the experiment. The nomination of General McClellan at Chicago was obtained by something very closely resembling false pretences; he was nominated as the advocate of peace and reconciliation, a character which, as soon as his nomination was secure, he lost no time in pointedly disowning."

Commercial Intelligence.

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 22.—The sales of cotton for two days are about 20,000 bales, the market being excited and all qualities have advanced about ½d. since Friday. The sales include 17,000 bales to speculators and for export.

The Manchester markets are buoyant, and prices are advancing.

BREADSTUFFS.—Flour, firm but quiet; Wheat quiet but steady; Corn dull at former quotations.

PROVISIONS.—Pork quiet but steady; Bacon steady; Lard quiet; Tallow firm and advanced 6d.

PRODUCE.—Coffee dull. Rice firm. Ashes dull. Linseed Oil quiet, with an upward tendency. Rosin dull. Spirits of Turpentine easier. Petroleum small sales.

LONDON MONEY MARKET, Nov. 21.—Consols closed at 90¾@90⅞.

The discount rate of the Bank of England remains unchanged at 6 per cent.

AMERICAN STOCKS.—Erie Railroad paid-up shares declined 1.

The *Times* says: "The advices from Frankfort mention that United States bonds continue firm at 5 to 4 per cent above New York prices, as no new remittances thence can be expected by the next steamer, owing to the previous bad accounts sent out, and to the circumstance of the entire supply in the German markets having for the moment been exhausted by investments and foreign orders."

Rules Concerning Flag-of-Truce Letters.

General Butler has established the following regulations concerning flag-of-truce letters:

1. No letter must exceed one page of a letter sheet, and must relate purely to domestic matters.

2. All letters (including prisoners') must be sent with five cents postage obviated, to go to Richmond, and ten cents beyond.

3. Every letter must be signed by the writer's name in full, and post office address.

4. All letters be enclosed to the commanding general of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Fortress Monroe, endorsed via flag of truce.

5. No money will be forwarded, except to "prisoners of war."

6. All letters sent to Fortress Monroe without a strict compliance with these rules will be transmitted to the dead-letter office.

NEW YORK CITY.

THE EVENING BULLETIN.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9, 1864.

11 P. M.—Gold, 239¼; Erie, 94¾; Hudson River, 114¼; Reading, 136¾; Michigan Central, 129½; Michigan Southern, 73; Illinois Central, 129¾; Pittsburg, 103¾; Toledo, 106¼; Northwestern, 43½; Northwestern Preferred, 76¾; Canton Company, 36¾; Cumberland, 51¼; Quicksilver, 89¾; Mariposa, 35¾.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

Arrived, ship Eastward Ho, Bangkok, Siam.

Fire at Waterbury, Conn.

WATERBURY, Conn., Dec. 9.—The Waterbury Clock Company's case factory was destroyed by fire early this morning. The loss is about $20,000, with an insurance of $12,000.

Fire at Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 9.—Gotik, Pease, & Co.'s cotton factory was burned last night. The loss in cotton was $10,000, partially insured.

Resignation of Assistant Paymaster Brans.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 9.—In view of the recent charges against the department commander here, Colonel Joseph Dans, Jr., assistant paymaster of the Department of Missouri, under date of the 7th, tenders his resignation, which is accepted. Lieut. C. W. Davis, of the 51st Regiment, is temporarily assigned to duty in the office.

Destructive Fire at Indiantown, New Brunswick.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 9.—A destructive fire occurred this morning at Indiantown, one of the suburbs of St. John. Ninety dwellings were burned, and at least three hundred people rendered houseless.

Disaster on Lake Erie.

OSWEGO, N. Y., Dec. 9.—Thomas S. Jerrey, bound from Milwaukee to Ogdensburg, with a cargo of wheat, went ashore yesterday afternoon, fourteen miles below this point in a terrific gale and blinding snow storm. The captain was frozen to death on the rigging, but the crew were taken off.

Boston Marine Intelligence.

BOSTON, Dec. 9.—Arrived, brigs Orison Adams, Cardenas; Sarah Goodnow, Philadelphia.

Non-Arrival of the Canada.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 9—8 P. M.—There are no signs as yet of the expected steamer Canada. The weather is fine.

The Gale on Lake Erie.

OSWEGO, Dec. 9.—About a hundred feet of the east pier at the entrance of Oswego harbor was carried away by the gale last night.

STOCKS AND REAL ESTATE, TUESDAY NEXT.—See Thomas & Sons' advertisement and pamphlet catalogues.

MRS. MATTIE BROWN'S LECTURES.—This lady, wife of the Rev. Mr. Brown, of the M. E. church at Greensburg, Pa., will deliver two lectures on next Tuesday and Thursday evenings, at Concert Hall. The subject of the first will be "The Age of Republics, the Past or the Future," a theme which opens a wide field for historical and elocutionary display. Mrs. Brown is stated to be a highly educated and exemplary Christian lady, possessed of fine oratorical powers, and with a voice unsurpassed for power and clearness.

THE CITY.

MILITARY.

REOPENING OF A MILITARY HOSPITAL.

The Christian street Hospital is about to be reopened as a home for maimed soldiers who are convalescent, or who have entirely recovered and are awaiting the preparation of their artificial limbs. It will give men who have been disabled by loss of limbs or other severe injury an opportunity of education for some practical pursuit suited to their limited physical capacities, thus enabling them to gain support after their discharge from the service, and preventing them from becoming objects of public charity.

The educational objects of the institution will be under the direction of Chaplain John Long. Telegraph operating, book-keeping, penmanship, and other practical matters will be taught.

There are now at the South-street Hospital about three hundred patients of this class, a portion of whom, with some maimed men from other hospitals, will be transferred to the Christian-street department.

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS.

The following deaths of soldiers were reported yesterday:

West Philadelphia Hospital.—Sergeant Hiram B. Woodward, E, 125th New York.

Stimson.—John Hallman, A, 9th New Jersey.

Beverly.—Jacob H. Abeel, K, 10th New Jersey Artillery.

York.—Edw. W. Little, H, 15th New York Cav.

RECRUITING.

Yesterday warrants for the payment of the city bounty were