THE PRESS.
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THE TRI-WEEKLY PRESS,
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The Press.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1865.

THE NEWS.

The conference of the Kentucky Methodist church, in session in Cincinnati yesterday, adopted the minority report, which expressed willingness to receive, through the General Conference only, an overture towards reunion. The report directly favored reunion, and warmly praised the union members asked to be excused from duty resigning their ministerial charges, and others resigned their seats.

Brevet Major Terry, commander of the Department of Virginia, has issued an order which prohibits the purchase, sale, or shipment to the rebel private parties of fragments of shell, or any other article of military use. The order was issued on account of parties from the North having repeatedly visited the battlefields of Virginia, and appropriated to themselves Government property.

The report of the Freedmen's Bureau, has approved all contracts made in Alabama, between freedmen and their employers, must be kept in waiting. The latter are to provide subsistence, food, quarters, and medical attendance, and the former are to be punished if they do not behave themselves. The freedmen have a lien on their employer's crops as to secure themselves.

Rewards are offered for the capture of the conspirators have been selected by the War Department. Their names will shortly be made public. Prosecution for officers connected with arresting the conspirators have been left out, and are only awaiting the signature of Mr. Stanton, who is absent from Washington.

In consequence of the washing away of bridges and destruction of culverts on the line of the Kansas branch of the Pacific Railroad, the President has revoked his former order relative to the payment of bonds to the company, and until the roads are constructed in a manner conforming with the contract no more public money will be paid.

Fifty-two thousand dollars' worth of Government bonds were on Tuesday afternoon taken from the counter of a banking house in Wall street, New York, whilst the clerks were otherwise engaged. Payment has been stopped. Twenty thousand dollars is offered for the recovery.

Dennis Attwater, who is charged with stealing the Andersonville prison record, which he purchased from him by the War Department, has been tried by court-martial, in Washington. His sentence is awaiting the approval of the proper authorities.

The official trial of the Algonquin and Wachusett will take place in a day or two—probably on Monday. The board of judges have decided on the tests which will be applied.

An inspection of the sanitary condition of Washington will be made in a few days, under the direction of the Freedmen's Bureau, by army surgeons.

During the month of August 7,269,015 acres of public domain were taken up by the land office at Ionia, Michigan, for actual settlement, under the provisions of the homestead act.

The Baton Rouge *Advocate*, of September 2, states that not more than one hundred negroes there have taken the oath under the President's proclamation.

It has been decided by the Government to give twenty days for the time for the acceptance of bids for the purchase of the Chattanooga (Tenn.) rolling-mills.

There is no truth in the statement that Secretary McCulloch has decided to issue 5-20 bonds in exchange for compound-interest notes.

Governor Curtin, yesterday morning, further postponed the murderer, David Gregory, until the 26th of October.

General Meigs's accounts of the celebrated Fort Sumpter expedition will be found in another column.

From Chicago we hear that the potato rot in that locality is very alarming.

Wirz is improving in health, and his trial will, in all probability, be resumed on Monday.

The eighth census report will shortly be produced.

The total amount received from internal revenue since July 1st is $75,977,047.58.

The stock market was very active yesterday for all kinds of securities. Government loans, though not selling largely, commanded better prices. The railroad list was considerably better, a further material advance having occurred in Pennsylvania and Catawissa.

Breadstuffs continue dull at about former rates. Cotton is in fair demand at the advance. Coal is coming in and selling freely at full prices. Fish are in better demand. Fruit is more and in demand. Naval Stores have advanced. Petroleum is in good demand, for export, and prices are well maintained. Wool is more active, but prices are without material change.

OUR INDIAN POLICY.

The relations of our Government and people to the Indian tribes west of the Mississippi, are properly attracting much attention, and are invested with commanding importance on account of the numerous outrages that have been committed, the dangers that attend emigration to the mining territories, and the perils that threaten the peace of the established frontier settlements. The enlightened world has adopted and sanctioned, for centuries, the doctrine that lands occupied by savages, belong by mere right of discovery, to the civilized nation whose adventurous explorers first land upon their wild shores. However much the justice of this system may be questioned on abstract grounds, it has long been established, and finds at least a partial justification in the palpable fact that the welfare of mankind is infinitely promoted by appropriating such an area as that lying east of the Mississippi, for instance, to the enjoyment and use of thirty millions of industrious, civilized beings instead of permitting it to be occupied forever as the hunting-ground of a few rude savages. The world would report only a small portion of its present population if its wonderful resources remained totally undeveloped by the arts of civilization; and, as communities become overcrowded, they are forced by the instinct of self-preservation to seek sustenance and wealth in districts and countries previously monopolized by barbarians. The doctrine of the right of discovery is, after all, only the legal recognition of this paramount necessity and the practical mode adopted to authorize and encourage the great work of colonization which has had such a mighty influence upon the human race since the discovery of America. But our Government, with that benign feeling which characterizes all its operations, has preferred, in the main, following the humane principle laid down first by WILLIAM PENN to an unscrupulous and rigid enforcement of the rights it possesses under the laws and usages of nations. Although endowed with the ownership of all the lands within its boundaries which have not formally been conveyed to private individuals by legal grants from the old colonies or the nations from which its titles were originally acquired, or by its own patents and sales, it treats the Indians, who have an apparent title to soil deemed desirable for white settlement as its bona fide owners, and invariably seeks by persuasion and treaty to secure their surrender of their claims, giving in return such compensation in annuities, blankets, implements, and new lands or reservations, as are mutually deemed satisfactory and just, in view of the character of the territory they surrender. It is a common remark that the Indians are often defrauded by these treaties; that they receive for their lands a sum infinitely less than their real value, etc.; but it should be remembered that it is a mere act of grace on the part of the Government to treat with them in this manner at all, and that they probably receive in most cases, in money or its equivalent, a sum fully equal to amount to the actual value yielded to them by their lands under their savage mode of existence. One acre of good land is intrinsically worth more to an industrious farmer, who assiduously cultivates it, than a thousand acres to a savage, who merely uses it as a park in which game may accumulate. Judged by this standard, our Government rarely fails to pay the Indians as much for their cessions as they are worth to them.

Hitherto, although we have had occasional Indian wars, there has ordinarily been no very great practical difficulty in disposing of the Indians east of the Mississippi. Nearly all disputes were finally settled by treaties in which they agreed to remove to new homes and hunting grounds west of that river. A considerable number have found a refuge in which they are not likely to be soon disturbed, in the Indian Territory west of Arkansas and south of Kansas. But meanwhile many wild bands and tribes are scattered in the territories which are now being settled by our hardy pioneers. Some are still left in California, Oregon, Minnesota, and Nevada, and many roam over parts of Washington, Idaho, Utah, Dacotah, Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona. Of late many depredations have been committed, and there have been numerous attacks upon detached parties who were travelling over the great overland emigrant route. The telegraphic wires have also been cut; portions of the stock of the overland mail-coach line have been stolen, and the cattle have been driven off from a number of isolated ranches. A number of white emigrants have already been captured and killed. The captives who have been fortunate enough to regain the frontier posts of civilization, give fearful accounts of the sufferings and indignities to which they have been subjected, and of the demoniac cruelty of their captors. The *Daily Union Vidette*, of Salt Lake City, of August 19th, publishes the statements of two women who, after a weary captivity of nearly one year, were finally rescued. One, a Mrs. LUCINDA EWBANKS, born in Pennsylvania, and aged twenty-four years, was taken from her home by the Cheyenne Indians in August, 1864. She was subjected to the worst of outrages, and traded, first, to "Two Face," a Sioux, afterwards transferred by him to "Black Foot," another Sioux, and transferred back from the latter to the former, who finally gave her up to our authorities at Fort Laramie. She was frequently beaten in an unmerciful manner by her savage masters, and a series of injuries were inflicted upon her children which eventually caused their death. The Indians frequently set out on expeditions to kill white settlers and emigrants, and to steal stock. A Mrs. MARTIN, captured also in August, 1864, while accompanying an emigrant train, composed of twelve men, who were all killed, relates her experience. Once, when the Indians became intoxicated, they shot at her as a convenient target. On another occasion she saw them hang two white women. A child by her side was pierced with four arrows, which caused its instant death. Scalp dances and sham battles were of frequent occurrence. After innumerable sufferings and hardships she met an Indian, who treated her very kindly, and she was finally purchased by white traders, who restored her to her friends. These brief sketches give but a faint idea of the many enormities which are continually being perpetrated, and which, as may naturally be supposed, have generated a feeling of antagonism in the breasts of the pioneers of our country, which differs widely from the humanitarian proclivities that distinguish many citizens of the Atlantic sea-board. The extermination of the savages is constantly being demanded by the people of the territories, and although the Government is not likely to yield to such a request, much is being done to secure future protection. While a large number of troops are stationed at our numerous forts, and at such points along lines of travel as are most frequently threatened, and while attempts are being made to form new treaties, which it is supposed will secure the future good behavior of important tribes, General CONNER's expedition against some of the most dangerous and destructive Indians promises to accomplish important results. The *Vidette* of the 19th ult. says:

"WHERE THEY ARE.—Four of Waskee's braves came in to Fort Bridger a few days since, direct from the vicinity of Powder river, and bring a report which is of great interest at this time. They state that the hostile Indians are camped on that stream in large force, the lodges about one thousand in number, being arranged in an immense circle, inclosing a large area, into which their animals are driven nights for safety. From this point bands, small and large, take their departure to commit depredations on the telegraph and stage routes, and to steal horses, which are driven rapidly away to their stronghold. This, too, is the objective point to which the several columns under General Conner are converging, doubtless with a full knowledge of the situation on the part of the commanding officer. Waskee, who understands the plan of the campaign, and has perfect knowledge of the locality, declares that the Indians cannot escape, a belief which we trust may prove well founded."

Whatever be the results of this expedition, it is certain that our Government will not long permit the travellers on an important international highway to be attacked with impunity. The Indians must be driven off from the line at all hazards, and compelled to sue for peace. The day is rapidly approaching when they will be forced to conform in some slight degree to the customs of civilization or to perish. The nation can no longer afford to have its progress impeded by surrendering the control of the richest portion of its domain to savage tribes.

CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 13.—Sailed to-day, steamship America, for Nicaragua, with about four hundred passengers.

Honolulu dates to August 16th have been received. The whalers James Maury, Joseph Maxwell and Richmond had arrived from the Arctic ocean—the former under bond, with one hundred and fifty sailors, comprising the crews of vessels burned by the Shenandoah. She left the Arctic sea about the time the Nile departed for this city, and reports the total captures by the Shenandoah at thirty vessels, of which twenty-six were burned and four bonded. The Maxwell reports that ten whalers escaped without giving their names. The Emily Jordan and John P. West had previously sailed for the Ochotsk sea.

The ship Cyclone, from Boston, arrived at Honolulu July 22d.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 15.—Arrived, steamer Colorado, from Panama. Sailed, Sept. 14, ship Kingfisher, for New York.

The steamer Sierra Nevada arrived from Oregon and British Columbia, to-day, with $850,000 in treasure.

CAIRO.

CAIRO, Sept. 15.—Nine hundred bales of cotton passed up the river for Cincinnati yesterday, five hundred and fifty for St. Louis, and one hundred and seventy for Evansville.

At a meeting of citizens to-day, a committee was appointed to invite General Grant to visit Cairo, where he began his illustrious career, and to partake of the hospitalities of the city.

HALIFAX.

HALIFAX, N. S., Sept. 15.—Lieut. Gamble, R. N. of H. M. S. Urgent, in a letter to the *Express*, says the Urgent passed the locality where the cable buoys were reported to have been placed, and with the best lookout of officers and men saw none of them. He concludes that if the Great Eastern's recoupings was actually in the part of the country described, it must have passed them at night. The prospect is that the trial will be resumed on Monday.

WASHINGTON.

A Further History of the Attempted Relief of Fort Sumpter.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL MEIGS' ACCOUNT OF IT.

A LOYAL STATE CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN VIRGINIA.

JAS. L. ORR, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AMONG THOSE PARDONED TO-DAY.

[Special Despatches to The Press.]

WASHINGTON, September 15, 1865.

The Treasury.

Yesterday the *Intelligencer*, with accustomed accuracy, in noting the arrest of a young man for altering a two-dollar note to a fifty, speaks of "the familiar profile of JOHN JAY, first Secretary of the Treasury," upon the two-dollar bill. The *first* Secretary of the Treasury was ALEXANDER HAMILTON, and HAMILTON'S profile appears upon both the two-dollar and fifty-dollar notes, thus rendering alteration comparatively easy.

The practice of repeating vignettes on notes of different denominations is very objectionable, and invites the substitution of a high for a low denomination by counterfeiting. This practice occurred on the earlier issues of the Treasury, but in the later plates prepared at the Treasury, such repetitions have been carefully avoided, and no denomination of late issue has been successfully changed.

The Virginia Battle-Fields.

Parties from the North and elsewhere having repeatedly of late visited the battle-fields in Virginia, and appropriated to their use property found thereon belonging to the Government, Gen. TERRY, commanding the Department of Virginia, has issued an order prohibiting the purchase, sale or shipment to the North by private parties of fragments of shell, fragments of arms, the metallic parts of cartridges or accoutrements, or any other article designed for military use, excepting such articles as are or have been sold by the authorized agents of the Treasury Department.

The Rewards Awarded.

The parties entitled to the reward offered by the Government for the capture of those engaged in the conspiracy plot and assassination of the late Mr. LINCOLN, have been selected by the War Department, and it is understood that their names will be made public shortly. Promotions for officers concerned in bringing the conspirators to justice have been made out, and are awaiting the signature of the Secretary of War, who is now absent from the city.

The Pacific Railroad.

In consequence of the washing away of bridges and destruction of culverts by rain on the line of the Kansas branch of the Pacific Railroad, the President has revoked his former order relative to the payment of bonds to the company, and no more public money will be paid the company until they construct the road in a manner conforming with the contract.

Decision.

I feel authorized to say that there is no truth in the statement that the Secretary of the Treasury has decided to issue five-twenty bonds in exchange for compound-interest notes. The Secretary has various financial measures under consideration and advisement, but has taken no definite steps upon any of them.

Land Operations.

The General Land Office has received returns from the land office at Ionia, Michigan, which show that during the month of August 7,266,45 acres of the public domain were taken up for actual settlement under the provisions of the homestead act.

Eighth Census Report.

This volume is in the hands of clerks, and will shortly be produced. In addition from the returns of manufacturers that in 1860 there were forty printing establishments in the Pacific States, with an invested capital amounting to $184,800; cost of material, $128,681; 250 male hands employed at an aggregate annual cost of $206,160; annual value of products, $846,195.

Sentence Approved.

The findings and sentence in the case of Major M. F. WEBB, additional paymaster United States army, who was convicted of "conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," using Government funds in speculating with soldiers' bounties, and sentenced "to be dishonorably dismissed the service, with the loss of all pay and allowances now due or that may become due, pay a fine to the United States of one thousand dollars, and be confined, in such place as the proper military authority may direct, until the fine is paid, have been approved, and the State Prison at Concord, New Hampshire, designated as the place of confinement.

Inspection.

An inspection of the sanitary condition of the entire city will be made in a few days by army surgeons under the direction of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Internal Revenue Receipts.

The receipts from this source since Monday last are as follows:

Monday	$2,270,733 20
Tuesday	941,854 21
Wednesday	1,390,521 79
Thursday	1,051,245 95
Total	$5,653,312 23
Total since July 1, 1865	$75,977,047 58

[By Associated Press.]

The Health of Assistant Secretary Seward.

The recovery of FREDERICK W. SEWARD, since his return from Cape May, has not been as rapid as was expected, owing to the intensely hot weather.

A letter to the Halifax *Express* states that H. M. S. Urgent, passed the place where cable-buoys are said to have been placed, but with best lookout of officers could see none of them. It is supposed they have gone adrift.

James L. Orr, of South Carolina, at one time speaker of the House of Representatives, was yesterday pardoned by the President.

The Revenue Cutter Service.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued a circular letter to collectors of the customs having charge of revenue cutters. It says, among other things, that the requirements of the law will not be satisfied by simply speaking in-coming vessels, but they must be boarded and actually examined, a certified copy of the manifest received, and the hatches fastened.

If, on such examination, there be just grounds for suspicion that the vessel contains dutiable goods not on the manifest, and designed to be smuggled into the United States, a commissioned officer of the cutter, or if one be not available, a petty officer of the cutter will be placed on board the vessel, to remain with her until she arrives at her destination. These duties are imperative, and a faithful performance of them will be rigorously exacted. The regulations are modified so as to forbid the diversion of the cutters under any circumstances, or on any pretext from the service, except by the express authority of the department. One of the objects of this modification is to prevent the cutters from being used for mere pleasure excursions.

In addition to the duties, specially devolved upon the cutters by law, of boarding incoming vessels and certifying manifests, they will be required to maintain a general surveillance of the coast lying within their respective cruising limits, with the view of preventing the unauthorized landing of foreign merchandise, and the evasion of import duties.

When cutters are supplied with both sails and steam-power, they should ordinarily rely upon the former, and use the latter as a propelling power only on emergencies, when it may be necessary to increase the speed of the vessel to accomplish some important and definite object. This is required as a measure of economy.

Counterfeit Treasury Notes.

A dangerous counterfeit was received at the Treasury to-day of a $100 compound-interest note, bearing date May 15th, 1863. It is much better executed than any counterfeit heretofore presented and requires some scrutiny for its detection. Both the face and back are printed in paler ink than the genuine, and on careful examination, the lettering on the face appears defective. Brokers, bankers, and others, should compare the offerings with the genuine before accepting them.

No other denomination than $100 compound-interest notes have yet been counterfeited, and all the compound-interest notes except the $100 notes can, therefore, be taken without special examination. One of these counterfeits was sent from Philadelphia and another from New York.

Gen. Meigs' History of Fort Sumpter.

Brevet Major General MEIGS has written a letter on the matter of the Sumpter and Pickens expeditions, and in reply to statements in the New York *Tribune* and those of Captain Fox. As he was familiar with the inception of the Pickens expedition, he deems it proper he should call attention to some of the facts in the case. Making a comparison of dates, and giving facts to show that the Secretary of State is not liable to the charge of having deceived the President, or of having caused the Powhatan to be diverted from the purpose to which the President had assigned her, without his knowledge.

"I, myself," he says, "suggested to the President the name of the Powhatan, and of her commander, and prepared the orders in relation to her movements, for his signature, and this I did on the 21st of March or 1st of April, three or four days before the Sumpter expedition was agreed upon. The Pickens expedition was planned and ordered with the knowledge only of the President, the Secretary of State, Lieutenant General SCOTT, Colonel E. D. KEYES, and myself. When Lieutenant FOSTER was detailed to command the naval portion of the expedition, its object was communicated to him. When Colonel HARVEY BROWN was assigned to command the troops, his instructions made known to him its destination, and to none others in or out of the expedition was its destination known, until we were nearly in sight of the sand hills of Pensacola.

"This, the first successful military expedition of the war, originated with Mr. SEWARD, and until it sailed the United States had declined everywhere. Fortresses and harbors had been lost. He carried me to the President, merely saying that he thought the President ought to see some of the young officers, and not consult only with men who, if a war broke out, could not mount a horse." When the President struck out of the instructions prepared for the commander of the expedition the authority to declare martial law at Key West and the Gulf coast, Mr. SEWARD induced him to restore it. The authorities of Florida had in February arrested and held me to bail for defending the rights of the Yankee fishermen of the Tortugas against the unconstitutional impositions of a Florida sheriff.

The secession flag flew over the court-house at Key West, within musket shot of Fort Taylor, but on the declaration of martial-law, which shortly followed our arrival in the gulf, judges, sheriffs, clerks, and mayor, fled from Key West to the main land, and the present loyal Provisional Governor of Florida was elected mayor of Key West, and that important post returned to its allegiance.

Some interference with the later programme of another expedition, it seems, arose from the secrecy with which both were organized, but the most important posts and fortresses in the Gulf, Pensacola, Key West, and the Tortugas, were saved to the United States, all well fortified; and the fleets, which would have been necessary for their reduction or blockade, were available at other points, which had been lost by the supineness of the preceding Administration.

Even if the victualling of Fort Sumpter was prevented, the United States still, at Fort Sumpter, asserted its desire and determination to possess that fortress, which could not help being of great moment against the batteries by which the rebels had already been permitted to encircle it; and who will assert that a few days provisions, more or less, in Sumpter, would compare in importance with the retention of the well-fortified harbors of Pensacola and the Florida reefs?

Secrecy has been in some instances, but upon perfect secrecy depended these great stakes; and so well kept was the secret, that, in the returning steamer Atlantic, I brought back to New York at once the news of the destination and of the success of the expedition.

Virginia State Convention.

It is proposed to hold a State union convention of the original loyal people of Virginia, at Alexandria, in a short time, to the deliberations of which will be invited all loyal refugees who have not yet returned to the State. Alexandria is proposed as the point at which the convention shall assemble, because of its easy access to those in the interior, both by railroad and water, and because of its proximity to Washington, where large numbers of loyal Virginians yet reside, though still claiming a residence in Virginia. The Hon. HENRY WINTER DAVIS, Senator WILSON, of Massachusetts, and others, will be invited to address the convention.

Captain Fox's Letter.

The recently-published statement of Captain Fox has led some to suppose that he and Mr. SEWARD are not on amicable terms; but it is understood that there is no divergence of views or feelings between the Secretary of State and the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, whose relations are as they have always been, of a friendly and cordial character.

The New Revenue Cutter.

The new steam-propeller Lincoln, built at Baltimore as a revenue cutter for the Pacific coast, has been ordered by the Secretary of the Treasury to start for its destination to-morrow.

Wirz's Health Improving.

It was reported this morning that Captain WIRZ died during last night, but on inquiry at the Old Capitol it has been ascertained that he is somewhat improved in health. The prospect is that the trial will be resumed on Monday.

Pardons Granted.

The only pardons granted to-day up to two o'clock were to JAMES L. ORR, of South Carolina, and HENRY C. WAGNER, of Georgia. ORR was at one time Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

Internal Revenue Receipts.

The receipts from internal revenue to-day amounted to nearly $1,500,000.

Extension of Time for Bids.

The Government has decided to allow twenty days further time for the acceptance of bids for the purchase of the Chattanooga rolling mill, to the 5th of October.

Appointed.

CHAS. H. CAMPBELD was to-day appointed Appraiser of Merchandise for the port of Savannah.

Sale of Vessels.

At the sales of vessels belonging to the navy, to-day, the following were purchased by citizens of New York:

Side-wheel steamer John D. Lockwood, Mr. Crossett, $6,300.

Propeller Fuschia, N. L. & C. Griswold, $11,000.

Side-wheel steamer Keystone State, M. O. Roberts, $54,000.

Propeller Yankee, R. B. Collyer, $6,400.

Side-wheel steamer Philadelphia, N. L. & G. Griswold, $31,000.

Side-wheel steamer King Philip, H. M. Haviniere Wood.

Propeller Gladiolus, S. & J. N. Flanigan, of Philadelphia, $7,300.

The proceeds of the sale amounted to $171,590, the price being mostly above the appraisement.

A Washington despatch says that the publication of Capt. Fox's letter was not prompted by any disagreement he had with Secretary Seward, both officials are on good terms with each other.

Frederick W. Seward's recovery has not been as rapid as was expected.

A State Convention is in contemplation at Alexandria, Va., to be composed of original Union men and refugees who were driven out of the State.

NEW ORLEANS.

The Markets—Regulations Concerning the Hiring of Freedmen in Alabama.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 13.—Cotton 43@45 cents. Freights to New York ¾@¾c. Checks unchanged.

At a large meeting of citizens of Austin, Grimes, and Washington counties, Texas, it was resolved to accept the situation, and to co-operate with the Government in its plans for reorganization.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 14.—Cotton 44@45 cents, Checks on New York ¼@¾c discount.

General Banks has gone North to remain.

Judge Delty, ex-Congressman from Indiana, and late deputy collector of this port, died this morning. His body will be sent to St. Louis.

General Swayne, in Alabama, has ordered that all contracts with freedmen for labor must be reduced to writing, and approved by the agent of the bureau of plantation labor. The employers will stipulate to provide sufficient food, quarters, and medical attendance, and such further compensation as may be agreed upon; and such contracts shall be a lien upon the crops, of which not more than one-half shall be removed until full payment is made, and the contract released by the bureau agents; and freedmen committed as vagrants may be set at work on the roads or other labor, or turned over to the Freedmen's Bureau.

General Wood and Governor Parsons have approved this order, and directed its enforcement.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 14.—Cotton very firm, sales 4,000 bales Middlings at 45c. The week's sales are 1,400, and receipts 14,000 bales. Stock in port, 88,000 bales. Sugar, fair to fully fair, 12½@13c. Exchange on New York 8½@¾c discount.

Clearances will, hereafter, be made from all ports in Texas.

The collector has commenced to refund the one per cent. per pound shipping fee on cotton, and three cents merchandise fee heretofore erroneously collected.

The Mobile *News* Montgomery special despatch says: That many influential citizens of Marengo and adjacent counties have petitioned Governor Parsons, asking his interposition for the removal of Col. Lynch, of the 5th Wisconsin Cavalry, as Lynch's sentiments would lead the negroes to rebellion against the whites, and bloodshed being imminent.

The Potato Rot in Illinois—Advices from the Red River District.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 15.—Chicago despatches describe the potato rot as very alarming.

Parties from Texas represent everything quiet in the Red River district. The negroes generally remain with their masters, working as usual. The crops look well, and promise a good yield.

The Baton Rouge *Advocate*, of September 1st, says not more than one hundred citizens have taken the oath under President Johnson's proclamation.

The Baltimore Transatlantic Line.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 15.—The steamship Somerset, the first of the new line from this port to Liverpool, will sail hence on the 30th of September.

Arrival of the Asia.

BOSTON, Sept. 15.—The Asia arrived at six o'clock this evening, from Liverpool and Halifax.

THE INDIAN COUNCIL.

A NUMBER OF TRIBES SIGN A TREATY OF PEACE WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

THEY PLACE THEMSELVES UNDER THE ABSOLUTE PROTECTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS, Sept. 14.—The following tribes to-day signed a treaty of permanent peace with the United States, as represented by loyal delegates, viz: Osages, Seminoles, Creeks, Chickasaws, Onapaws, Senecas, Shawnees, Choctaws, and Quapaws. The treaty concludes as follows: "The undersigned do hereby acknowledge themselves to be under the protection of the United States of America, and covenant and agree that hereafter they will in all things recognize the Government of the United States, as exercising executive jurisdiction over them, and will not enter into any allegiance or conventional agreement with any state, nation, power, or sovereign whatever; and that any treaty of alliance for the cession of land, or any act heretofore done by them or any of their people, by which they renounced their allegiance to the United States, is hereby revoked, cancelled and repudiated.

In consideration of the foregoing stipulations made by the members of the respective nations and tribes of Indians present, the United States, through its commissioners, promises that it will re-establish peace and friendship with all the nations and tribes of Indians within the limits of the so-called Indian country; that it will afford ample protection for the security of the persons and property of the respective nations or tribes, and declares its willingness to enter into treaties, and to arrange and settle all questions relating to and growing out of former treaties with such nations, as effected by any change in their relations to the United States and this Government.

JAMES DICKERSON, GEORGE PEARSON.

The trial of the notorious guerrilla, Champ Ferguson, having been concluded at Nashville, the prisoner's counsel read an argument for the release of the prisoner. The principal points were as follows:

The court will remember that the universal tenor of the evidence is that, in all cases where the defendant was proven to have committed a wrong, it was against those who had wronged him or had threatened to do so.

It has been fully shown, both by the prosecution and the defence, that the state of the section in which the acts alleged to have been unlawfully committed was that of perfect chaos.

No law prevailed, no order could be restored.

The military of either side permitted it to remain unprotected, and therefore personal redress was the only remedy adjudicated by personal force.

That this has been mutual is shown by the testimony of first and other witnesses for the prosecution, as well as witnesses for the defence.

Why, therefore, should one individual be punished, and others equally guilty of the same offence be held blameless!

It appears by the testimony of at least two witnesses that the defendant was a commissioned officer of the rebel forces, and such acts as he committed were under the direction of superior officers of the Confederate States.

That the commanding officer should be responsible, and not the individual who was compelled to obey, is a plain maxim. Wheaton's Law and Laws of War, page 356 and following.

But even admit, for the sake of argument, that all the charges in the second, the prisoner's commission does not protect him, that he should be punished for the acts committed under positive directions from his superior officers, that he had no right to defend himself, that his organization of a company was illegitimate, that the command had committed no violence, yet is not the letter of Major General George H. Thomas to Major General Lovell H. Rousseau a complete pardon for all past acts, provided the conditions therein contained were complied with!

The proof goes fully to show that immediately on the reception of the information therein contained, the prisoner accepted the same, and was anxious to lay down the bloody sword so long wielded with the bloodstained swords of his opponents.

He willingly gave up his followers, and directed them to sacredly swear, in the presence of their divine Creator, that hereafter the blood of their fellow-man should no longer attach to their garments.

All this was done; yet of all the band; of all within his own section of the country; of all within the Department of the Cumberland; of all within the scarred lands of the Potomac; of all within the bounds of the United States, he alone has identified themselves with similar independent bands, he alone was refused pardon.

Why is it that all others are permitted to go free and be pardoned?

A Confederate Matron on the Humanities of War.

[From the Chattanooga Gazette.]

Among the prisoners of a brief interview yesterday with Mrs. E. M. Warren, just arrived from Eufaula, Alabama, on her way to Nashville. Mrs. Warren has served as nurse and matron in the rebel hospitals in Georgia throughout the entire period of the rebellion. She has been engaged in the same avocation at the beginning of the war, and offered her services as a nurse to the rebel authorities, with the understanding that, in return, she were accepted, to deal with a gentle hand, and administer to the wants of the sick and wounded alike to both friend and foe. How well she has kept her Christian resolve throughout, set out her lengthy experience with the maimed and fallen victims of the recent bloody war, is a little known to herself save Him who prompted her Christian administration.

We believe her to be a good woman, as the testimony of her friends in Georgia bear testimony. We acknowledged her refinement and intelligence, and learned from her the following sad account of affairs at Andersonville, Alabama, under the management of the notorious Wirz, in the winter of 1864.

Mrs. Warren was sent from the Empire Hospital, at Atlanta, on or about the 1st of December, to lend her aid to the sick and wounded, at Albany Hospital, Doherty county, Georgia. On her way thither she visited Andersonville, at which place she stopped over for several days, for the purpose of ministering to the sick, wounded, and prisoners, and learn from personal observation whether the sick, as were being treated in such a careful and humane manner as reported and whispered among the more Christian and humane people of Atlanta.

Mrs. W. visited the sick, wounded and prisoners, but ere she half completed her contemplated tour, her heart so sickened at what she saw that she could see no more. She returned with horror, and turned away and sought refuge beyond the limits of the place where she could be seen but "rough handling meted to man." She saw half-clad, living skeletons, devoid of shoes and stockings, standing upon the frosty ground, and occasionally lifting their feet, goose-like, and wrap them in the tattered rags that hung about their person, and press their feet close to the body, for its warmth to shield them from the frost.

Groups of men could be seen hovered around and covered green pieces of fat pork, fries and persons so blackened with the soot of the pine-wood smoke that they appeared like negroes.

Other men could be seen engaged in carrying the dead bodies from the straw pallets of the den, stacked them up at the entrances, to be carried away for interment without coffins, or friends or comrades to follow the corpse to its resting-place.

Wagons and carts were there, clad in gray, with muskets, overlooking these sad and solemn movements of the dead; and should any of these prisoners, engaged in moving the dead, fall under the weight imposed upon him, the wretches in gray would prick them with their bayonets and compel them to rise and move on. And not unfrequently the bodies of soldiers were carried away for interment before life was extinct.

Other bodies were carried past with wisps of straw in either hand, grasped in the last agonies of death.

Oh, horror! Let justice be quickly meted out to those who are guilty of such shocking crimes!

We did not further question Mrs. W. for patriotism forbade the foul deeds she saw enacted, and crimes perpetrated at Andersonville upon the prisoners, for fear of touching too delicate matters, for we had already discovered that our fair informant's modesty prompted her to keep silent.

The prisoners stated, however, that while in company with several ladies, she saw Wirz, at which time she addressed him, and remonstrated against such inhuman treatment of the prisoners under his command. The colloquy terminated by Mrs. W. calling Wirz a "Dutch villain." Wirz replied by saying "*I have several ladies of Andersonville had recently very mysteriously left the town for making similar expressions; and you are going in the same way, if you persist in making such expressions.*"

Mrs. Warren became frightened at this remark of Wirz, and the ladies accompanying advised her to leave Andersonville at once, for if she remained, Wirz would certainly do as he said, or intimated—put her out of the way.

Mrs. W. left the town the following morning, and went direct to Albany, Doherty county, Georgia, where she entered the hospital as matron.

On or about the 15th of December the prisoners at Andersonville were moved to Albany in consequence of an expected advance of the Federal cavalry. At Albany the prisoners, or many of them, were forced to lie out in the open air at that place and cut the dry berries, which are very astringent, and said to be poisonous, the chinaree berries of the South are never eaten by anybody, under any circumstances.

At this place the prisoners were camped in an open field, grown up with sedge grass, without tents or blankets, and with scarcely sufficient clothing to cover their nakedness. On account of the severe cold, the prisoners dug holes in the ground and buried themselves, as best they could, to shield themselves from the inclement weather.

The prisoners remained at this place three weeks, with barely sufficient food to sustain life, in consequence of which many of them became so weak and faint that they could not walk.

At the close of the time stated above, the prisoners were ordered to return to Andersonville. Those that could not march did not, for no wagon so ordered, but remained in the camp in their holes, covered with sedge grass, (which had been found in the field, and was gathered by hand and thrown upon the loose rails over the holes in the ground, forming a covering that shielded them from the frosts of winter,) to be burned out, as Wirz ordered the camp to be fired; and many a poor, sick, faint prisoner was burned to death on the spot, and many died after in consequence of their injuries.

CAREFUL COMPILATION.—A singular work is about to be published—a collection of the very best passages of all the very best writers of France of the last half century. It is to be called the *Tresor Litteraire*, and is to be issued in two volumes, which are to be splendidly printed. It has been compiled by a committee of the Société des Gens des Lettres, and the preformation of it has occupied not fewer than ten years. The greater part of the authors quoted are still living, a fact which proves the terrible literary sterility of the early part of the century, when Bonaparte was master of France, and when horrid wars devoured Frenchmen by the thousand.—*London paper.*

ALABAMA STATE CONVENTION.

THE OATH ADMINISTERED TO ALL THE MEMBERS.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 15.—The *Gazette's* Montgomery, Ala., special despatch says the State convention organized on the 12th inst. Ex-Governor Fitzpatrick was elected president by acclamation. Governor Parsons administered the oath to all the members, as requested by President Johnson. The action of the convention will be conservative, differing but little from that of Mississippi. Governor Parsons favored action by the convention for the admission of negro testimony before the courts, and also for submitting the constitutional amendment to the people.

New ORLEANS, Sept. 12.—The *Times'* Montgomery special of Sept. 12th says the convention met to-day. Ninety-two members were present, and were qualified by Governor Parsons. Resolutions were adopted for the appointment of a committee of one from each judicial district to report an amendment to the constitution restoring the State to her relations with the Federal Government.

The Fire at Liverpool, N. S.

HALIFAX, N. S., Sept. 15.—The fire at Liverpool yesterday destroyed fourteen houses, and the Baptist and Methodist churches. The loss is about $40,000. There are heavy fires in the woods near the town, and the country is very dry.

NEW YORK CITY.

NEW YORK, Sept. 15.

HEAVY ROBBERY OF GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Fifty thousand dollars' worth of Government bonds were abstracted from the counter of a banking-house in Wall street, yesterday afternoon, while the attention of the clerks was diverted. Payment on them has been stopped, and $20,000 is offered for their recovery.

SALES AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

SECOND BOARD.

$150000 US 6s '81	5-20 c 107⅜	200 American Coal	60
36000 US 6s '81	do 107⅜	100 Penn Coal	40¾
12000 Mo 6s, New	80¼	50 Read Railroad	53
16000 Mo St 6s	74½	200 do 2d call	168⅞
12000 do	74½	100 Penna R	67⅞
10000 do 2d call	75¼	100 Ill Central R	122¾
8000 North Carol 6s	28	500 Cley & P R	71
40000 O & M Conv	27¾	200 do 2d call	71
5000 American Gold	142⅞	200 Ch & NW Pref	61
50 Cent Nat Bank	66	100 do 2d call	61¼
6 do	163½	300 do	61
100 Canton Co	39½	500 do	60¾
100 do 2d call	39½	100 do 2