THE PRESS.
PUBLISHED DAILY (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED)
BY JOHN W. FORNEY.
OFFICE, No. 111 SOUTH FOURTH STREET.

THE DAILY PRESS,
To City Subscribers, is EIGHT DOLLARS PER ANNUM, in advance; or FIFTEEN CENTS PER WEEK, payable to the Carrier. Mailed to Subscribers out of the city, SEVEN DOLLARS PER ANNUM; THREE DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS FOR SIX MONTHS; ONE DOLLAR AND SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS FOR THREE MONTHS, invariably in advance for the time ordered.
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THE TRI-WEEKLY PRESS,
Mailed to Subscribers, FOUR DOLLARS PER ANNUM, in advance.

The Press.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1865.

THE NEWS.

Wirz's defence opened yesterday with the examination of Rev. Messrs. Wheeler and Hamilton, who are his spiritual advisers. They testified to his general good conduct. Testimony for the prosecution was also taken relative to the disposition of some corn supplies and the connection of Winder with Davis. One important fact was testified to by the rebel colonel commanding the guard. He decided that furloughs were given Confederate soldiers for shooting Union prisoners, and asserted further that the Confederate rations of the prisons were bad and Wirz's conduct generally good. Nothing further of importance was elicited.

Senator Ramsey has just reached Washington from Minnesota. He states that there is no truth in the report that there was any difference in the recent Union State Convention in regard to President Johnson's policy. All was unanimity and enthusiasm in regard to it. The allegation that a resolution complimentary to him was laid upon the table is explained in a special despatch, which will be found elsewhere, in this way: After the convention had agreed upon a satisfactory platform, including a full approval of the Presidents course, an outside resolution was offered, amounting to the same thing. This was, of course, considered superfluous, and, therefore, not adopted. This was looked upon with delight by the Democrats, but the matter is well understood in Minnesota.

A circular has been issued by the Post Office Department giving notice that the penalties fixed by law for carrying letters outside the mail when not enclosed in Government stamped envelopes will be rigidly enforced in every instance where violations are known to exist. Only letters relating solely to the cargo and freight or water craft or other vehicles employed upon mail routes may be lawfully carried not enclosed as above. By the terms of this order unpaid letters for delivery and those pre-paid by postage stamps cannot be carried outside the mail by any of these conveyances without subjecting the captain, owner, driver or other employe to a penalty of one hundred and fifty dollars for each offence.

The order issued for dismantling the forts around Washington will have no immediate effect in reducing the number of troops in the district. About six thousand volunteers still remain, and the guard duty required takes them on duty every third day. As the Government property is removed and concentrated this labor will be lessened. The regulations there are awaiting assignment, and are not considered as belonging to the District. This order except Battery Rodgers and Fort Foote, both of which are on the Virginia side of the Potomac.

Governor Perry, of South Carolina, has issued a proclamation ordering the commanders of the sub-districts and all officers serving within the military districts of Charleston to assist in organizing a home police. This police is to act under orders of the district and sub-district commanders of the United States troops. Each member is required to take the oath of allegiance, and must bear a good character.

Yesterday the Union Convention of Maryland, Second Congressional district, met in East Baltimore. Hon. T. F. Thomas was nominated as collector of the port. Resolutions were passed rejoicing at the overthrow of the rebellion, returning thanks to the soldiers and sailors, expressing sorrow at the death of Mr. Lincoln, and repudiating the doctrines of States rights.

The Knight Templars of Richmond having received a similar order from Boston to visit that city at an early date in the coming month, the Columbia commandery of Washington are making extensive preparations to entertain the Bostonians there during their passage through the city, going and returning. It is understood that a grand banquet will then be given.

Savannah dates of the 22d have been received. The police of that city have received instructions to arrest all colored persons found in the streets after nine o'clock at night, unless supplied with a pass from their employers stating the hour they are limited to remain out. Quite a number of robberies have recently occurred in the city.

John Bright, the English member of Parliament, and the champion of America in England when her friends were fewest, has not been offered a passage to this country in the Colorado by the President, as was reported. He, however, will be welcomed as leading Englishmen seldom are, when he may choose to come to this country.

By the Cuba we have more news about the Fenians. One of the newspaper organs of the brotherhood, *The Irish People*, has been seized, and a British fleet hovers off Cape Clear. The directors of the Atlantic Cable Company have concluded to lay a new cable next year. Fire Car plot is said to have been discovered against the French Emperor.

Secretary McCulloch has under consideration a plan for the relief of the Southern cotton holders having in view the removal of cotton from ports in the South to the North, without requiring owners or holders of the same to pay the Government taxes, on which it is found many of the planters are unable to do.

The Sanitary Home on Capitol Hill, Washington, D. C., which has been supported by the Sanitary Commission, and which has often given shelter to the weary soldier, will be discontinued at the close of the month.

Secretary Harlan, of the Interior, has gone to Iowa. He will be absent several weeks. Judge Otto, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, will discharge the duties of his office during his absence.

Efforts are being made to obtain the legal services of Hershel V. Johnson in defence of the rebel steamboat and bridge-burners who are to be tried at St. Louis.

There are thirty-three vacancies in West Point Military Academy, two of which occur in the representation from this State.

Yesterday the first full Cabinet meeting held in a month convened at the White House. All of the Secretaries were present.

It is reported that Mr. Singleton, formerly Senator of the rebel Congress from Mississippi, has been pardoned.

The South Carolina Convention has refused to allow the negroes to form a part of the basis of representation.

Secretary Stanton returned to Washington on Saturday. On Monday he was at the War Department.

Stanton Hospital, Washington, has been discontinued. The patients have been removed to Douglas Hospital.

The Atlantic Base-ball Club gained a complete victory over a Boston club yesterday.

General Grant and staff are expected in Washington on Saturday.

General Shields, of Oregon, is in Washington.

Flour was more active yesterday, and prices are well maintained. Wheat, Corn and Oats are without change. Cotton is less active and rather lower. Sugar is in good demand at full prices. Provisions continue very scarce and prices are looking up. Petroleum is in demand and prices are better. Seeds are dull and rather lower. Whisky is firmly held at former rates.

The stock market was very excited yesterday. A sharp speculation in Reading advanced prices quite generally. Government bonds had an upward tendency, and the Passenger Railroad stocks were held firmly in anticipation of a further rise.

SOLDIERS AND COPPERHEADS.

The word "Copperhead" originated in the army, among the men whose votes are now asked to defeat the Union ticket. No epithet so well expresses a soldier's scorn as that of "Copperhead." There is a marked distinction between the "Democrat" and the sympathizer who is designated by this convenient appellation. The Democrat is a frank, outspoken citizen, who deplores the blunders of the party leaders, who denounces the violence of Judge BLACK, the timidity of JAMES BUCHANAN, and the silliness of RICHARD VAUX. Nothing makes him more indignant than to tell him his sentiments are in unison with the New York *World*, FERNANDO WOOD, or C. C. VALLANDIGHAM. Such a citizen don't vote the Union ticket, sometimes shirks the election day, and when he goes to the poll he invariably scratches his ticket. But when he gets desperate, he marches directly into the Union quarters, registers his name, takes a room, and becomes a permanent lodger. "A Copperhead" is precisely the kind of animal to make a soldier indignant. He is never satisfied. He is like JOHN RANDOLPH, who so hated the woollen manufacturer that he swore he would go out of his way a mile to kick a sheep. He always feels like making war upon a colored man if he meets one. He was excessively McClellanish all the time McCLELLAN lost battles, and especially after he lost command; and he never thought much of GRANT, because he took McCLELLAN'S place. He groaned over a rebel defeat, as he used to sadden over a Democratic defeat. He believes that BOOTH was "a handsome young rascal," Mrs. SURATT a saint in petticoats, JEFFERSON DAVIS "a stern statesman," and HENRY WIRZ a persecuted German. He helped to put up the Chicago Democratic scaffold; was present at the building of the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and the Long-Ohio platform. The only place where he was not found was in the Union army. The soldier never meets his returned enemy in the Union party. He never sees him at a Union meeting. But if he goes into a Democratic assemblage, he generally finds a Copperhead in the chair, or making a speech, or offering resolutions in favor of Col. W. W. H. DAVIS. And so the soldier votes against the Copperhead and his friends.

THE SOLDIERS AND THE DEMOCRATS.

The idea of feeding a hungry man upon the savory odors of a hospitable kitchen is not unlike the hope of achieving a Democratic victory by the aid of soldiers' votes. Nor does the utter desperation of that hope deter these politicians. They indulge it with an oblivious forgetfulness beyond description ridiculous. Even their soldier candidate, Colonel DAVIS, seems to have lost his own memory of their notorious sympathy with the rebels. But that is not surprising on his part, when we compare it with the fact that for three years he allowed a furious secessionist to conduct his own paper, "*The Doylestown Democrat*," and to fill it with all sorts of abuse of the Government, and never thought of disowning the infamy until he was charged with being responsible for it! Three years want of memory! When it was his own paper—published over his own name, in his own town, sent to him in his camp and read in his tent! Wonderful absent-mindedness! But it appears that ever since the gallant Colonel has recovered his memory sufficiently, yet very feebly, to say that this three years' prostitution of his own columns was without his consent (not, mark you, without his knowledge), he has again lost that important intellectual element. The Reading *Daily Evening Record*, a reliable Union paper, says, on Friday last:

"The Doylestown *Democrat*, owned and edited by Colonel Davis, the Copperhead candidate for Auditor General, has an editorial in a recent issue in defence of the inhuman monster, Captain Wirz, who murdered our brave men by the slow process of starvation at Andersonville. It asserts that the military commission, before which he has been put upon trial, is a usurpation of power, and that the prisoner has not been fairly dealt with. Colonel Davis, we presume, takes this course in order to commend himself to the support of his party."

If then the Colonel forgets his own affairs after this fashion, and runs into all these Copperhead habits and phases, how can we expect him to remember the open treason of the Democratic leaders of this State? How can we blame, if, following his example, they decide to forget, even to deny, that they ever did sympathize with the rebels? And who will be surprised if, like the poor starving who tries to console, even while tantalizing himself with the unctuous perfumes of a round of roast beef, they foo themselves with the hope of getting a Democratic victory with the aid of the soldiers' votes?

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 26, 1865.

Political intelligence, which in the present interesting condition of public affairs concentrates with more than usual correctness a sum of wisdom, and gives a certainty that the coming elections the friends of the Government, the great Union party, will be largely triumphant. There was a brief period when the desperate attempts of the so-called Democracy to outbid the true friends of Andrew Johnson on the subject of reconstruction created some uneasiness, lest they might be enabled by hollow pretexts and the assumption of sentiments they had bitterly opposed during all the war to secure such a hold as practically to defeat the great objects supposed to be secured by the overthrow of the rebellion. But every subsequent hour has only served to re-establish the strength of the men who have maintained one attitude on the great questions involved in the prosecution and close of the war, and to add other proofs to the recklessness and insincerity of those who only discovered that Andrew Johnson was worthy of their support when he became President. Probably nothing has contributed more to expose the uncertain and unreliable character of the Democratic leaders than the trick (of which they now openly boast) in their recent New York State Convention. With the exception of a few men in that body who had been patriotic from the first, nearly all the leaders threw off their honest tendency towards treason, and put on the robes of ultra nationality with as complacent a smirk as the actor who changes one dress for another to please a public who laugh while they know he is deceiving them. These leaders took this course in the full face of their constituents, and calculated that they could receive the votes of a people who were convinced that the whole thing was a sham and a bid for office. That any sensible men in the Union party should have been disturbed for a moment by such a farce is a marvel. But that it should have awakened indignation among those Democrats who really believe that the mission of the Democratic party was to sympathize with the rebellion during the war, and to continue as far as possible in a course of antagonism to Andrew Johnson, was a sequence so logical and so irresistible that I saw the proceedings of a protesting Democratic meeting against the nomination of General Slocum without surprise, because I knew some such demonstrations would follow to rebuke and upset the disreputable proceedings at Albany. The brave General Slocum, tempted and tickled by unscrupulous politicians into the acceptance of their nomination, and into the rejection of his own cherished associations and opinions, will now probably be added to the list of soldiers who, after having admitted that Copperheadism had done almost as much to obstruct their operations in the fields of war as the armed rebels, yielded to their blandishments and their politics, and, as a result, suffered humiliation and defeat. The news from Ohio is to the effect that General Cox, the Union candidate for Governor, will have a stupendous majority. There, as in New York, the Democrats have gone to pieces, because a portion of them attempted to change front and to shift platforms. Vallandigham's late speeches have been of the most acrimonious character, boldly going to the extent of threatening repudiation of the public debt as a sequence of the policy of the Administration. In your neighboring State of New Jersey there is an animation and a heart in this struggle that looks more like victory than anything I have noted in years in that State. In casting up the horoscope, it is just to recollect that in every Western Commonwealth,—notwithstanding the rumored divisions in the Union party, and in the face of what are called the damaging utterances of Messrs. Sumner and Stevens,—the Democrats have been more overwhelmingly defeated than at any period of their history. Nor will Pennsylvania form an exception to the rule. But our friends must be more active. The Democrats flatter themselves that they have a party that is quietly at work, and even with the aid of what is called the "conservative" platform of New York, and in spite of the dark flag boldly raised by Jeremiah S. Black at the State Convention, upon which are inscribed the most shameless doctrines, they are stubbornly contending for the victory. The Union men have the advantage of the possession of the situation. Their State candidates are popular, young, and gallant soldiers, and their platform broad, comprehensive and national. With these means, and the facilities of an organization that should control the State for half a century, with the aid of all the victorious elements of the war and the great body of the returned veterans, it would be astonishing if a large majority were not thrown for Hartranft and Campbell. What ought to help our cause immensely in Pennsylvania is the anomalous attitude of the Democracy in placing soldiers upon *their* ticket; and these partisans have already experienced the fact that it is the height of impudence and audacity for politicians who have in no one instance, from the beginning of the war, shown themselves the friends of the Government, but on the contrary have been its persistent and poisonous assailants, to screen themselves behind the reputation of military men as their political candidates. If these candidates were, in point of service, brains and popularity, the equals of the most brilliant and brave of our great leaders—nay, if Colonel Davis were General Grant, and if his associate, Linton, were Logan or Sheridan, they could not carry such a load as the doctrines fastened upon their back by Jeremiah S. Black, with the endorsements of such politicians as James Buchanan and his followers.

OCCASIONAL.

WASHINGTON.

THE VACANCIES IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

CONFIRMATIONS OF OUR MEXICAN NEWS.

Mr. Bright's Reported Visitation to This Country.

[Special Despatches to the Press.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26, 1865.

Mexican News.

With no desire to compliment *The Press* upon the accuracy of its early information from Mexico, because I am not of those who rejoice over the downfall of a sister Republic, yet every day establishes the truth of your special despatch from New York, signed "Montezuma," and the letters of your correspondent from Chihuahua. The intelligence published in the New York *World* of yesterday, taken from a letter written from the neighborhood of Chihuahua, is substantially correct. Some of the warmest friends of JUAREZ admit that it is impossible for the Republican cause to hold together, and that nothing can prevent a full trial of the Maximilian experiment. The withdrawal of the troops of NEGRETZE from the lower Rio Grande forced JUAREZ to leave the city of Chihuahua, and he was at last accounts at a small post some three hundred miles nearer north. When the imperial troops entered the city of Chihuahua they were welcomed with every sort of popular demonstration. It is another question how long MAXIMILIAN will be enabled to hold his post, but it is not doubted that if he withdraws his forces sooner than any thing known, even in Mexican experience, will break loose. There is the bitterest hatred of the French, and even of the Americans, in Mexico. I saw a letter, a few days ago, from an American gentleman, who was a surgeon in the American army during the Mexican war, and who is now living in one of the oldest Catholic cities, in which he said that the fiendish hatred of the Mexicans to foreigners cannot be described. That there is a strong party in Mexico insisting upon the return of the French troops cannot be questioned, and is not even denied; but the covenant between MAXIMILIAN and Louis NAPOLEON binds the latter not to leave the former until he thinks he is able to maintain himself. May it not be to the interests of humanity to give this Austrian prince a fair chance? Will not the United States rather profit by his success than by contending for a policy which is simply to relight the fires of civil war, and to once more set the cauldron of frenzied faction boiling in Mexico? American doctrines will conquer and cover all that country, and whether France or Austria, or any of the foreign powers, occupies it for a time, this can only be for an interval. Elements thus discordant and dangerous in a barbarous state can never be educated and disciplined unless they use the very experience and intelligence thus attained by them to throw off the yoke of any oppressor, and to look to a higher civilization for companionship and support.

Washington Society.

The city of Washington is alive with visitors and business. Willard's is crowded, and the other hotels are driving an unusually heavy business. The theatres and lecture rooms attract throngs of spectators. The large majority of persons in Washington are from the South; indeed, the President sees more of them than of any other class. Gradually they are resuming the avocations they left when the war broke out, and I notice that under the generous rule of the President, rebel soldiers, doctors, lawyers and politicians are reappearing in Washington. They seem to behave well, and are getting into business. But "the scepter has departed from Judea." They never will be able to resume the controlling position they formerly held.

Hon. Alexander Ramsey.

Senator RAMSEY has just reached Washington from Minnesota, and says there is no truth in the report that there was any difference in the recent Union State Convention there in regard to President JOHNSON'S policy. There was unanimity and enthusiasm for the President's course, and the allegation that a resolution complimentary to him was laid upon the table is explained in this way: After the convention had arranged and agreed upon a most satisfactory platform, including a full approval of the President's policy, a person outside offered an additional resolution, amounting to the same thing, which was regarded as superfluous, and therefore not adopted. The Democrats looked upon this as a division among the friends of JOHNSON, and put up HENRY M. RICE as their candidate for governor, who is now running as an exclusive friend of the President—a trick that is well understood in Minnesota, and certainly laughed at even by the Democrats themselves.

Tammany Hall on the War Path at Last.

DEAN RICHMOND and SAMUEL J. TILDEN, two of the leaders of the Democracy of New York having at last discovered that ANDREW JOHNSON is it to be President, and worthy to be trusted, are now in Washington, and will doubtless be received by the President, with whom they profess to have important public business.

(By Associated Press.)

Mail Contracts.

The Postmaster General to-day let to contract the well-known White-river route from Memphis, Tennessee, to Jacksonport, Arkansas, and intermediate points. This important mail service extends 554 miles and back, three times a week. The contractor is J. B. ARCHER, of Kentucky. Additional post-offices are opened in Tennessee and South Carolina.

The Reported Invitation to Mr. Bright.

Hitherto it has not been necessary to formally contradict, on this side, the European statement that Mr. BRIGHT had been offered by the President a passage to this country in the Colorado. Here it was generally known that the Colorado had but recently reached that quarter as the flagship of Admiral GOLDSBOROUGH, the commander of our naval forces in European waters, and it was justly taken for granted that she would stay there the usual time, unless some extraordinary reason should induce her earlier return. No such occasion has yet happened. Mr. BRIGHT, however, is well aware of the sentiments of the President and people of this country in regard to him. They know that he is one of the very few of the leading statesmen and members of Parliament in England who have taken pains to master the causes of our late struggle, and who have heartily sympathized with the Government in its progress and at its conclusion; they would, therefore, welcome him whenever he might come hither, and it is a cause of regret that, as he will be detained at home by his official duties, an opportunity for carrying out that welcome will thereby be delayed.

The Guano Interests of Peru.

The Minister of the Treasury and Commerce of Peru has addressed a circular to the Minister of State, in the Department of Foreign Relations, in order that he may take suitable measures in view of the fact that the revolutionary authorities intend to sell the guano from the Guano Islands, and for this purpose have solicited sealed proposals. This circular is deemed proper, although the decree of July 30th sufficiently secures the national interests.

Consuls Recognized.

The President has recognized LEWIS BOSSLIN as vice consul of Switzerland, at Chicago, for the States of Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and the northern part of Illinois; and ERNEST RAVEN consul at Austin, Texas, for the Duchy of Saxe Coburg-Gotha.

The Wirz Trial.

Among the witnesses examined in the Wirz trial to-day, was JOHN B. JONES, formerly the editor of the *Medionian*, the official organ of JOHN TYLER, in Washington. During the late rebellion he was employed in the War Department at Richmond.

United States Military Academy.

The following circular relating to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point was to-day issued by the War Department:

Vacancies exist in cadetships at the U. S. Military Academy in Congressional districts of the following States and Territories, which should be filled by nominations of the members of Congress representing the respective districts before the 17th of October next.

Maine—Fifth Congressional district.
New Hampshire—First Congressional district.
New York—Third, Eleventh, Seventeenth, Twenty-first, Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh Congressional districts.
New Jersey—Fourth Congressional district.
Pennsylvania—Sixth and Fourteenth Congressional districts.
West Virginia—Second Congressional district.
Ohio—Eleventh, Twelfth and Seventeenth Congressional districts.
Kentucky—Second, Sixth and Eighth Congressional districts.
Tennessee—Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Ninth Congressional districts.
Indiana—First and Third Congressional districts.
Illinois—Ninth Congressional district and State at large.
Michigan—Sixth Congressional district.
Iowa—Fifth Congressional district.
Wisconsin—First, Second and Fifth Congressional districts.
Minnesota—First Congressional district.
Kansas—One vacancy.
Idaho—One vacancy.
Montana—One vacancy.

Members having the right of nomination will please forward immediately, to Brigadier General Delafield, Chief of Engineers, the names, residences and age of the applicants for whom they desire an appointment. The applicant should be ready to present himself for examination by the Academic Board at West Point on or before the 17th of October.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Appointments.

WM. F. BOWMAN has been appointed collector of customs for Petersburg, Va., and OTIS FAIRBANKS collector for the District of St. Marks, Florida.

Miscellaneous.

A Louisiana delegation called on the President this morning relative to affairs in that State. So far as learned, they seemed to favor the appointment of Governor WELLS as Provisional Governor.

The first full Cabinet meeting held in a month convened at noon to-day, all of the Secretaries being present.

FITZGERALD RICHARDS, of Pennsylvania, was to-day appointed Consul at Moscow, Russia.

To fill vacancies, which were created by resignations, the following Pennsylvania appointments are ordered: At Mount Joy, Lancaster county, JOSEPH R. FERGUSON, postmaster, vice LEWIS P. BLAUVELT, resigned. At Bloomsburg, Columbia county, SAMUEL H. MOORE, postmaster, vice LEVI L. LUSE; at Jacksonville, Butler county, JOHN BANDER, postmaster, vice THOMAS W. MCNEES.

FORT LARAMIE.

A Series of Battles with the Hostile Indians—The Enemy Totally Routed.

FORT LARAMIE, Sept. 25.—Information was received to-day from General Conver's column under General Cole, to the 21st instant. It had been encamped near Fort Connor since the 20th. He lost six hundred horses and two mules, which, with his own, were frozen to death in one night. On the 1st of September he was attacked by a war party of Sioux, Cherokees and Arrapahoes, on Powder river. They were repulsed with heavy loss; ours being only four killed and two wounded. On the 3d the Indians appeared in force, and were driven ten miles.

The next day the engagement was renewed, and lasted until noon, and the Indians were again defeated, with great slaughter, their loss being from 200 to 600 killed and wounded. The Indians fled in every direction, but our troops were unable to pursue them, on account of the poor condition of the stock. Our loss was one officer killed and two men wounded. The Indians lost a large number of horses. They again attacked our troops on the 8th, and after a spirited engagement were totally routed and beautifully cleaned out. Their force was estimated at 3,000, and they lost many valuable chiefs. Our total loss in the three engagements is seven killed and three wounded. Another battle was expected on Powder river, but the Indians suddenly disappeared.

THE TRIAL OF WIRZ.

OPENING OF THE DEFENCE.

Rev. Messrs. Wheelan and Hamilton Testify to the General Good Conduct of the Prisoner.

Important Statements of the Confederate Colonel Commanding at Andersonville.

FURLOUGHS NOT GIVEN FOR SHOOTING UNION MEN.

Rations of Confederate Soldiers at Andersonville also Bad.

The Connection of Winder with Davis—The Food of of Wirz—Disposition of Sanitary Commission Supplies.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26.—Several additional witnesses were this morning examined for the Government.

Dr. M. Marsh testified that he had been employed as an agent for the Sanitary Commission for the States of Georgia, Florida, and the Carolinas, from January, 1862, until the close of the rebellion. The witness sent from Beaufort large supplies of clothing, such as shirts, drawers, pantaloons, and hats, and also crackers, condensed milk, coffee, tea, and other articles of food. The arrangement for sending the relief to the prisoners was made by General Winder, and the supplies were, according to which the goods were passed over to the agent of the Confederate Government at Charleston. The witness sent from Beaufort large supplies of clothing, such as shirts, drawers, pantaloons, and hats, and also crackers, condensed milk, coffee, tea, and other articles of food. The arrangement for sending the relief to the prisoners was made by General Winder, and the supplies were, according to which the goods were passed over to the agent of the Confederate Government at Charleston. The witness was known in June, 1864, that there was suffering at Andersonville, as escaped prisoners gave the information. The witness had no influence that the goods were received by the prisoners. In November an order was received from Washington not to send them any more supplies.

Cross-examined.—After the goods passed from the Sanitary Commission they went into the hands of the Confederate agents.

Judge Advocate Chipman put in evidence a letter of Captain Wirz, dated Andersonville, Nov. 12, 1864, addressed to Captain Neely, assistant quartermaster, Confederate army, in which the writer acknowledged the receipt of eighteen packages of clothing, five bales of blankets, one box of shoes, four boxes of pants, three boxes of drawers, socks and shirts, and that he should distribute them without delay.

John B. Jones testified that he had been a clerk in the rebel War Department; with regard to General Winder, that officer was very unpopular; efforts were made to remove him, but unsuccessfully; he did not know whose particular favorite General Winder was; the latter frequently went to President Davis' and Secretary Benjamin's offices; as there was a clamor for Winder's removal as provost marshal, and as Winder was not removed, the presumption was that he was sustained by President Davis.

Philip Cashmeyer testified that he was in the rebel service four years, and was employed as a detective under General Winder; the relations between General Winder and President Davis were intimate; he had often heard Gen. Winder say so, and had frequently seen him go to Davis' house; when the order came from the War Department to relieve General Winder as Provost Marshal, he went to President Davis, who endorsed the order with the words, "it is entirely unnecessary and uncalled for," or words to that effect; General Winder was sent to Goldsboro to take the field, and afterwards had his powers extended by being appointed Commissary General: the witness continued with General Winder until he died, in South Carolina; General Winder was sent by Secretary Seddon to Andersonville to lay out the prison.

Dr. Joseph Jones testified that as a surgeon at Andersonville Hospital he prepared a full report of its condition for the benefit of the medical department, making suggestions as to how an improvement might be effected.

Cross-examined.—Dr. White was the chief surgeon of the Andersonville Hospital, and he consultation with the time General Winder died.

Judge Advocate Chipman then asked the counsel for the defence to call their witnesses.

Mr. Baker said they were not prepared to go on, but if the court thought it best they would do so.

Colonel Chipman said that for the last fortnight strringent rules and regulations had been adopted, so as to prevent any conversation by the prisoner of anything clandestinely. So much so that he could not have an interview even with his wife, excepting in the presence of an officer. Two or three instances had occurred in which the rules had been violated. A note or letter had been delivered by Mr. Schade, one of his counsel, to Mrs. Wirz without having been examined; and after a remonstrance from the officer to Mr. Schade, the latter was seen to hand the prisoner money and a slip of paper which he crushed in his hand. This morning a letter was passed by the prisoner to Mr. Schade and handed to Benegetti, one of the witnesses. Such practices were improper.

The court asked Mr. Schade whether he could give the contents of the letter.

Mr. Schade did not think it was any harm to hand a letter from Captain Wirz to his wife, as it related only to private matters, perhaps clothing. He gave the money to the prisoner out of his own pocket to buy him food, and as he did this innocently, and so frequently, he did not hesitate openly to declare it. This morning he received a letter, in the presence of the officers, and told the prisoner there was nothing wrong in it. Not having time to carry the letter to Mrs. Wirz, he handed it to one of the witnesses for that purpose. He should have that letter produced, so that the court may see for themselves that there is nothing improper in it.

The court requested Mr. Schade to hand the letter to the Judge Advocate.

Mr. Schade replied he would.

Mr. Baker said that he had only heard there had been sharp words. He had requested the Judge Advocate to bring out the facts. He knew nothing more of the matter than what had just been stated.

The Judge Advocate said they had often heard of the bribing of sentries. Money was a very ready means for that purpose. Counsel must not assume things of that kind when the prison officer informs him that such practices are against the rules.

Mr. Schade replied he had not given the prisoner more than five dollars at any time, and this was done on the prisoners swearing him that there was a necessity for his procuring better food.

Colonel Chipman. He gets all he desires.

Mr. Schade. He says he does not.

The court to Judge Chipman. We wish you would inquire into that, and see whether the prisoner is suffering from any deprivation.

Mr. Baker. I am satisfied the Captain fares as well as any one could under the circumstances, with the exception of such little delicacies as a man in his feeble condition requires. I hope nothing more of the kind will come up.

Mr. Schade. The prisoner says he only got two cups of milk and two eggs.

The court. Mr. Schade, you must get the letter.

Father Hamilton, called for the defence, testified that, while he was engaged in his ministerial duties at Andersonville, Captain Wirz was doing everything in his power to promote the physical and spiritual comfort of the prisoners.

Father Wheelan testified to the same effect; he saw Captain Wirz commit no personal violence, although he had made use of profane language; men were hunted by the dogs, but he never heard that any one was torn by the hounds; Captain Wirz gave him permission to distribute supplies among the prisoners; while he was there he never heard of Captain Wirz killing or striking a man with his pistol, or kicking a man so that he died or was laid up.

Cross-examined by Colonel Chipman.—He did not say that Captain Wirz did not do such things, but that if he did it was probable he should have heard of the facts; he heard from the prisoners that Captain Wirz was violent and harsh.

Direct examination resumed.—Several other clergymen were also at the prison.

By the court. The witness said he fought sometimes in January; it was for the benefit of all the prisoners, without distinction of sect or creed; he had frequently heard prisoners complain that they did not get enough to eat; he did not know whether spoiled meat was furnished or not, as he was too much engaged in looking after souls; he could not say positively to how many persons he had administered spiritual relief; perhaps fifteen hundred or two thousand; perhaps more or less.

Mr. Baker said he understood these two witnesses had made exertions to visit Captain Wirz as his spiritual advisers, but that they could not obtain permission to do so until after they had testified as witnesses. He desired that they be furnished with certificates that they had testified.

The court said they had nothing to do with that. It was for the officer of the prison under arrangement with the Secretary of War; therefore, the application of counsel was superfluous.

Mr. Baker. The Secretary of War said he would give the permission.

The Court. That is for the Secretary, and not for the Court.

Colonel Fannin, of the 1st Regiment Georgia Reserves, under orders from Brigadier General Cobb, went to Andersonville on the 9th of May, 1864, and remained there until the middle of September. At first the guard did not number more than two or three hundred, but it was increased as the number of prisoners increased, until there were from twelve to fifteen hundred men; their arms were, in great part, flint and steel locks; Captain Wirz could not punish or reward the guards for anything they had done; he could grant furloughs only when he might be temporarily acting as commandant of the post. The witness never heard, while in command, of a furlough being given as a guard for shooting a Union prisoner.

Question by Mr. Parker: Did Captain Wirz ever apply to you to have a furlough given to any guard for shooting a Union prisoner?

The Court sustained the objection as raised by the Judge Advocate.

Q. Did ever a guard apply to you for a furlough on the ground of shooting a Union prisoner? A. I do not know of such application upon that ground.

The witness said that Turner, the owner of the dogs which had been used in hunting men, and lately held in his regiment; this man in July was commanded by General Winder to report to him, which he refused, and General Winder ordered him to procure a pack of dogs; those dogs were employed to hunt Confederate as well as Union deserters; the sentences of Confederate courts-martial for offences were digging up the swamps and the hollows of Captain Wirz; he has kicked, shot and maltreated prisoners, it is probable that he should have heard of it; he frequently made requisitions on the quartermaster for tools, but was unable to obtain them; there was a good deal of grumbling among the troops about the rations, and desertions occurred from that cause; Captain Wirz was sick last summer near Andersonville, and was absent from the post some weeks; this was in August; the witness frequently heard whipping in the stockade at night from the sound of the lick, screams and groans; at one time, said he, there was no disturbance, but when such disturbed the camp; six or the latter were hanged; Captain Wirz having previously tried them over to a jury of the Union prisoners.

The Commission then adjourned.

GEORGIA.

NEW YORK, Sept. 26.—The steamer Perit has arrived with Savannah dates to the 22d inst.

The Savannah *Herald* says the police have instructions to arrest all colored persons found in the streets after nine o'clock at night, unless they have passes from their employers, stating the hour they are limited to pass. The police, the *Herald* says, are very vigilant in the discharge of their duties, but quite a number of burglaries and robberies are announced nevertheless. Messrs. A. Myers & Co. had suffered to the amount of $900; Bernard Hohn & Co. had lost goods valued at $2,000; and Chas. Bruen's residence was robbed of $500 in greenbacks and $200 in gold.

FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, Sept. 25.—The steamer Escort arrived here from City Point, Bermuda, with the 5th United States Colored Troops, under Col. J. Black. They came from Newbern, N. C.

Robbery at Memphis.

MEMPHIS, Sept. 26.—Merriman's jewelry store was broken open last evening, and robbed of $30,000 worth of jewelry.

The receipts of cotton yesterday were 500 bales, and the sales 200 bales, at about 36 cts.

Fire at Lawrence.

BOSTON, Sept. 26.—Russell & Co.'s paper mill, at Lawrence, was nearly destroyed by fire today. The loss is $20,000, mostly insured. Seven firemen were injured by the falling of walls, one of them fatally.

THE STATE FAIR.

IMMENSE PREPARATIONS FOR A CREDITABLE DISPLAY.

SPECIMENS OF ALL THE VARIED WEALTH OF OUR STATE CONCENTRATED BENEATH ALMOST A SINGLE GLANCE.

THOUSANDS COMING TO WILLIAMSPORT TO SEE IT.

GOVERNOR CURTIN AND OTHER PROMINENTS AMONG THE NUMBER.

Base-ball Matches, Racing, and Other Sports, to Contribute to the Attractions.

[Special Despatch to the Press.]

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Sept. 26.—The great State Fair commenced here this morning, under the most cheering auspices, with all the varied wealth of our State gathered in its departments of exhibition, and thousands from every part of the State—mechanics, farmers, merchants, every profession and calling—assembled to be admired and impressed by it. The town, as I transmit this despatch, is literally crowded; the streets filled with throngs whose feet have never trod them before, the hotels full, the private boarding-houses full, everything habitable full. Yet, with this perfect torrent of visitors, still they come. Every train is loaded down. The fair seems like some gigantic magnet, drawing together every particle akin to it from places even the most remote.

The grounds upon which the fair is to be held are admirable, for they have been laid out for the very purpose by the Lycoming-county Agricultural Society. They lay at the outskirts of the town, are enclosed, high, dry, and occupied by spacious structures for articles of home, floral, machinery, and stock departments.

Contributions to all these departments are arriving hourly, and already there is nearly enough to fill comfortably all the space allotted. Many of the articles are from Philadelphia, but most of them come from Lycoming and the adjoining counties. They are all objects of interest. The cattle display is not as large as usual, but what there is of it is very fine, and is suggestive of the "aroma of clover-field and the milkmaid's horn in the dewy eve." But the display of horses is unprecedently large, of all breeds that delight the stock-raiser and the connoisseur.

Nothing important has been done to-day, but to-morrow morning the fair will be formally opened in presence of the vast number of visitors, with a great procession. This will be under the charge of the chief marshal, Adjutant General Russell, with the following assistants: Governor Curtin, Generals Jordan, McCall and Cox.

The home department, being the most extensive, will be situated in a very large and handsomely-decorated building, while the others are especially adapted for their purpose. All the arrangements, indeed, are first-class, and are due to Mr. E. C. Williams, of Harrisburg, who superintends the entire exhibition. Great preparations are in train for the usual trials of speed, for, as I have said, some of the horses are among the finest in the State. The Herdic House, which is asserted to be larger than the Continental, is full of guests, and among them are many Philadelphians.

The floral display will be most beautiful. All the flowers that bloom in the cool air of our Pennsylvania hills and valleys, and all that come from other and kindred climes, to smile through crystal at the skies, will be represented in their wealth of perfume and beauty. These attractions will be heightened if possible, by a handsomely-constructed fountain in the centre of the large tent appropriated to the department. The vegetable display will also be extremely good. Here, in the midst of the floral paradise, the Williamsport band is to be stationed, to add the glory of music to the perfume of flowers.

Among the strangers are large numbers of sporting-men, who are already engaged in their avocations. The Athletic Base-ball Club of your city is expected here on Thursday, and a great deal of curiosity is manifested about them.

Gov. Curtin will be here to-morrow night.

A base-ball match between the Philadelphia and Erie and the Wilkesbarre clubs will be played here to-morrow, thus adding to the attraction.

J. R. D.

THE VERMONT HORSE FAIR.

BURLINGTON, Vt., Sept. 26.—The National Horse Fair opened this morning, and is successful. Flora Temple, Ethan Allen, Draco, and many other noted animals are here. During the afternoon Flora and Ethan trotted a half mile, to show their speed—Flora doing it in 1.10½, and Ethan in 1.16.

EUROPE.

ENGLAND STILL MORE ALARMED BY THE "FENIANS."

A Newspaper Organ of Their's Suppressed by the Arrest of its Attaches.

A BRITISH FLEET HOVERING OFF CAPE CLEAR.

ALARM AND EXCITEMENT ALL OVER IRELAND.

Another Plot said to have been Discovered Against the Life of the French Emperor.

MORE ABOUT THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH AND TH