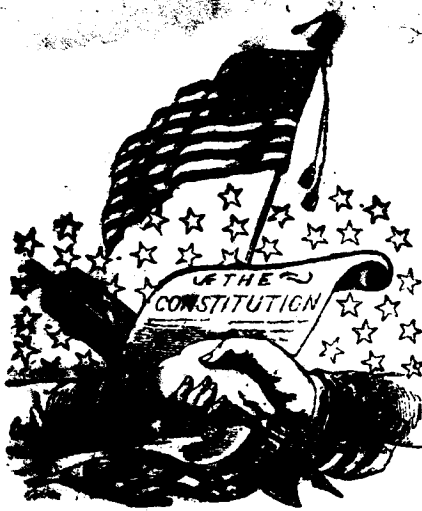


R. W. JONES, Editor. JAS. S. JENKINS, Business Manager.



"Our Country, Our Constitution, One Destiny."

WYALSBURG, VA.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 6, 1864.

FOR PRESIDENT IN 1864, GEN. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, (Subject to the Decision of the Democratic National Convention.)

"While the army is fighting, you as citizens see that the war is prosecuted for the preservation of the Union and the Constitution, and of your nationality and your rights as citizens." GEN. B. McCLELLAN.

"The Constitution and the Union! I place them together. If they stand, they must stand together. If they fall, they must fall together."—Daniel Webster.

The New Year. We tender our patrons the compliments of the season. May the coming year bring them all wished-for prosperity and restore peace to our distracted land!

Gen. Lazear. Gen. LAZEAR, the faithful Representative of the people of this District in the present Congress, improved the brief recess of the two Houses, by a visit to his family and friends in this place. No man in the county enjoys a larger degree of public confidence, nor more deservedly. Honest and straightforward, modestly but decidedly and at all times expressing his opinions on all subjects of political concern, he is utterly incapable of the contemptible "dodging" laid to his charge by the "Greene County Republican." The business of Committees or of his constituents may occasionally require his absence from the House when partisan Resolutions are pending, or buncombe discussions are dragging their slow length along, but no important measure of public policy will escape his scrutiny or his vote, if able to be in his seat. We will answer for that; and the promised watchfulness of what the General "does not do" in the present Session in the way of voting will not occupy more than two minutes and a half per day of neighbor Evans' time. Would it not be as well, however, for our Argus-eyed cotemporary to devote at least that portion of his leisure to the examination and "showing up" of the wholesale and unconfessional nigger-frevoing projects of such Blackknives as Lovejoy, Washburne and Stevens, and to the exposure of their votes in favor of increasing the pay of colored troops and against increasing the pay of our gallant white soldiers, whose peculiar friend and champion the "Republican" claims to be, and would have our brave lads believe it to be? How would it do, to "take a turn" at that sort of thing, at least for the present?

"Young and Pure." Senator John P. Hale, of New Hampshire, belonging to the "young and pure" Abolition party, admitted, the other day, in the United States Senate, that he had received a fee of \$3000 for getting a prisoner out of the Old Capitol at Washington, who had been arrested, confined, and was to be tried for defrauding the government. According to John's notions of Puritan morality, it was all right, as he happened to be a half-out lawyer "when this old hat was new," some 20 years ago. It was his political and not his legal influence, Hale was paid for, however, as he had only to apply to Stanton for the "parole," which was promptly granted. He was employed to defend a swindler and to use his influence to have him released. For the former he got \$1000, and for the latter \$2000.

Gen. McClellan. The Conservative Union National Convention, which lately re-assembled in Philadelphia, nominated Gen. Geo. B. McClellan for President and Gen. Wm. B. Campbell, of Tennessee, for Vice President. Hon. Amos Kendall acted as President, and Dr. R. F. Stevens, of New York, as Secretary of the Convention. The formation of McClellan Union clubs in every part of the country was recommended. It was distinctly stated by the Secretary of the Convention that Gen. McClellan had not been consulted in reference to the nomination—that he had nothing to do with the movement whatever.

"The message came at Indianapolis in a quiet 'Trombon.' Appropriate, very."

The Rights of the States. We agree with a cotemporary that it is but natural that apprehensions should be indulged on this subject; for the existence of this Union at all for any length of time depends on the observance of these rights. The generation of seventy-six, at least as wise as we are, would not depend on an inference, plain as it was, that the Federal Government was the creature of the Constitution, as much so as a corporation is the creature of its charter; and that any power not granted to the Federal Government nor forbidden to the States, was reserved to the States and the people. They were not contented to leave that as a corollary, resulting from the facts of the case. They insisted that it should be expressed, and it was expressed, and the clause stands a monument of the wise jealousy of the new power created. After this was so plainly to be implied, and after the expression of it was demanded and secured by all the States, it is now attempted to be overruled by the war power. Such an attempt our fathers would hardly apprehend. The war power was but the arm of the civil power, for its defence, and who would dream that it could be a power by itself, to do what the civil power had no right to do; that the mere servant of our institutions should assert a supremacy over them, when it was not only implied, but expressly provided by all the States that the military should always be subject to the civil power? Our complex system is that the Federal Government is a real sovereign over the things committed to it, the States are also real sovereigns over objects reserved. We are under two real Governments, each sovereign in its own sphere. There was a difficulty in point on the subject. A Government must be the judge of its own powers to be sovereign. The Federal judiciary were left to be the ultimate guardians of both Governments, as to the limits of their powers; for the Federal Government and the laws made in pursuance thereof were made the supreme law of the land; and the Federal judges were to decide finally if a law was in pursuance of the Constitution. Nothing less than two-thirds of the States can take an appeal from this tribunal, and nothing less than three-fourths of the States can overrule it. This provision leaves the question of conflict, when it comes, to the States and the people. State rights may be encroached upon, and State rights for a time in peril; but, after all, will they at last not stand the test? There is reason to believe they will weather the storm at last. The ties that hold combinations of States may be disrupted; but there is an intuition that the States are solid units, that, like the ultimate atoms of matter, are indestructible. At some point in the progress of consolidation, it will affect too many States to be tolerated. In the end, the Federal Government is more likely to lose than to gain by usurpation. What evils may be done by errors or by design, in interfering with rights plainly reserved to States, none can foresee; but the end is not likely to be favorable to the power that unwarrantably interferes. From the origin of our Government parties have threatened the disruption of the Union; but the thought of destroying a State Government has not been cherished. A threat of rebellion against State authority has not been made by any responsible party, and has never met with any sympathy. There are thirty-four parties to this jealousy of State rights. Some great question may overrule this jealousy for a time, but only for a time. It has a natural and indestructible basis, and, like the law of gravitation, acts constantly, and, like the same law, will finally overcome the greatest impulsive force. It is the interest of every State that the rights of none of them shall be infringed, and it is an interest that the people of a State cannot fail to see. It is natural that the party in power should feel a repugnance to State rights. They stand in the way of the cherished purposes of the Abolition party, and it is a point with them to bring the whole theory of State rights into disrepute, if possible. This doctrine of the rights of the States is now blamed with all the trouble by the shallow Abolitionists. It, in fact, in their view, is the cause of the house being divided against itself. Whatever the ambition of a party prompts it to do, must be done, and if the right of a State stands in the way, it is an evil. Such obstacles they say ought to be removed. The doctrine of State rights may be abused by being pushed to extremes, until a State is assumed to be an independent nation, with a right to set up for itself and recognize no power but its own. This makes the Union voluntary on the part of the States, and assumes their right at discretion to ignore all Federal authority. Acting on this extreme view, the Southern States have seceded; hence the doctrine of State rights comes in for responsibility for the crime of rebellion, and those who insist on the rights of the State at all are rebels, in the vocabulary of this political school. Now, the doctrine of secession, monstrous and erroneous as it is, is not more dangerous than the theory that the Federal Government has any power not delegated in the Constitution. We presume no bigot or fanatic, who acknowledges any law but the higher law, will pretend that the States have no rights, sacred from any interference by the Federal Government. It will not be pretended that the States are not Governments, with rights and powers reserved, and there is no dispute as to the material part of these rights. There is, however, a great lack of appreciation of the value and sacredness of these rights. It is agreed that a State cannot legislate upon a subject given exclusively to the Federal Government. It must not usurp power over such a subject, but it is treated as a small matter, which circumstances may justify, for the Federal Government to exercise power reserved to the States, and disregard State authority. It is thought to be a light matter to enter a State with the Federal military, and declare who shall vote; a power that all admit belongs exclusively to the State. Here is a plain case, never brought into dispute before any tribunal. It is, moreover, the most important of State rights. What shall be the qualification of the elector none but a State can interfere with. If the Federal Government, under its own power or any other, can thus interfere with a plainly reserved right of a State, then, indeed, there is no such thing as State rights; and a State has no rights that the Federal Government is bound to respect; and all our State Governments are but machinery to be used by the power at Washington. Our fathers did not intend to give the Federal Government such power. The States did not dream that they were ratifying such a power when they adopted the Constitution. Not a State would have consented to become a nullity by conceding such a power to the Federal Government. If there be danger in State rights, here is one more dangerous; it subverts the whole theory and basis of our institutions. States, with all their rights, are essential to our system. Whether the system be good or bad, there it is, and any change of this essential part of it is revolutionary. The Federal Government has no more right, under a plea of necessity, to usurp power plainly not conferred upon it, plainly reserved to the States, than a State, under any such plea, has to violate a law of the Federal Government. The danger of such usurpation may not appear immediately. Our fathers decided that it would not do to give such power to the Federal Government. It would not suit our people; and for that reason a Government exercising such a power would fail at last. It would be upset by revolutions. Such a power would run into a despotism or crumble to pieces by its own weight. Now, what is the danger of an exaggeration of State rights, of the greatest abuse? Secession is the worst. That, after all, is but rebellion, that the error on the other hand will be sure to produce. In fact, this rebellion did not originate in any theory of secession. Only a few who went into the rebellion ever held the doctrine at all. Indeed, if the doctrine had been recognized universally, there could have been no reason to secede. The whole movement was based on evils apprehended. If such a remedy as secession really existed and was acknowledged, no danger could have been apprehended, for each State had a peaceable and effectual remedy for it. In a central Government, that claims the power to nullify any State right, such apprehensions will always exist. It was the fear of usurpation of power, for which there would be no remedy, that was used to educate the Southern mind and fire the Southern heart. The people were told that a party was coming into power that would not regard the reserved rights of States, and that they must make haste now to protect those rights by physical force before it was too late. It was not, then, a belief in the doctrine of secession that produced the rebellion. Whilst some held to the doctrine, they knew it was practically a nullity; for it was of no avail if it were not recognized by the Government itself. At present, few would dispute the rights of a State in theory. Specify these rights, and they would be acknowledged in words; but what of them? There is the trouble.—If they are in the way, thrust them aside.—Any excuse to disregard them will do. Pretexts will never be wanting. The criminality of a State in contemning Federal power on such excuses and pretexts these men could see, but they can't appreciate the crime they commit. In fact, their crime is a merit, as the fanatic will tell a pious lie for the glory of God, or commit murder to prevent the propagation of heresy. The rebels trample down the laws and Constitution of the United States. The enormity of their crime these Abolition partisans can see; but they disregard and trample under foot the Constitutions and laws of the States, and can't see their own guilt, palpable and flagrant as it is. They are fully awake to the wrongs and crimes of others, but are blind as bats to their own. Such is their consistency.

Waynesburg Messenger. This sound and able Democratic paper has put on a new suit of clothes, and now rivals in appearance, as it always has in capacity, the nearest and best conducted papers in the State. The Democracy of Greene will, we do not doubt, take pride in rewarding the skill and enterprise of the editor as they deserve.—(Harrisburg Patriot and Union.)

The Legislature. The State Legislature convened at Harrisburg on yesterday, Jan. 5th. The Republicans have a majority in the House, but the Senate will stand equally divided, as one of the Republican members is in Libby prison, at Richmond. The Harrisburg Union thinks the House will be able to organize at once, but that several days may intervene before the Senate succeeds in organizing.

The Prospect. The Cleveland Leader, in an article on the "good time coming" under radical auspices, holds out this consoling prospect to "men of this day and generation": "Men now in the prime of life will never see the glad fruition of the coming time; let them be content to gaze upon the promised land from a distance, though it be from the mountain top of a good old age." It is said that ten thousand of the veteran troops of the Army of the Potomac have already re-organized, and paymasters have been ordered into the field to pay the men their back-pay and bounty.

President Lincoln is recovering from a slight attack of varioloid. "The government has been greatly helped for the last three years, but that's the first time it ever had the small pox."—(Boston Advertiser.)

Gen. George B. McClellan. The Hartford Times recalls attention to the well-grounded belief that Gen. McClellan would have gone into Richmond, in the peninsular campaign, if the Administration had permitted McDowell to advance with his forty thousand men and to hold Stonewall Jackson in check, as McClellan requested. The Times adds: "After Pope's defeat, he rallied the disorganized troops, and beat Lee in two pitched battles in the brief space of eight weeks. He was then within 48 hours of another battle in which he was confident he could most thoroughly defeat and break up Lee's army—and then he was removed. What has been done since? What has the year and a half produced by the change?"

Desperation of the Rebel Congress. In the rebel Congress measures of a desperate nature, prompted by desperate necessity, were being speedily framed and adopted. The House had passed a bill to prohibit the circulation of and traffic in United States currency. Also, a bill abolishing the system of substitutes in the army, and compelling those who have furnished substitutes to enter the army in person, at the same time holding on to the substitutes.

The Health of the President. The Philadelphia Inquirer announces the fact, that "the President has so far recovered his health as to enable him to visit Ford's Theatre nightly, to witness Hackett." We suggest the propriety of the war clergy calling their flocks together, and after the style in monarchical countries, thanking God that our illustrious Chief Magistrate is so far recovered in health as to be able to visit a second class theatre nightly, to listen to the vulgar jokes of a low comedian.—[Fulton Democrat.]

From the South-West. WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The following dispatch has been received at the Headquarters of the Army, dated Chattanooga, December 28. Col. Long, of the 4th Ohio cavalry, commanding second Division of Cavalry, reports from Calhoun, Tenn., Dec. 28th that the rebel Gen. Wheeler, with 12 or 1300 cavalry and mounted infantry, attacked Col. Sibert and captured a supply train from Chattanooga for Knoxville, at Charleston, on the south bank of the Hiwassee. The escort had reached the encampment at Charleston last night, and Col. Sibert's skirmishers were hotly engaged with the enemy this morning. When Col. Long was apprised of their approach he immediately moved the small force for duty in his camp at the time, one hundred and fifty men, crossed to Col. Sibert's support, when the rebels shortly afterwards gave way. Col. Long pursued them closely. Discovering a portion of their force cut off on the right, he charged them with the sabre, completely demolishing and scattering them in great confusion. Several of the enemy were killed and wounded. There were 121 prisoners captured, including five commissioned officers. The main rebel column fled, and were pursued five miles on the Dalton road, and when last seen were fleeing precipitately. Col. Long's loss was one man slightly wounded. The officer in command of Coasser Station, at Cleveland, also reports that he was attacked early this afternoon, December 28th, by a force of one hundred rebels. He drove them off, however.

ITEMS, POLITICAL AND OTHERWISE. THE UNION.—The Boston Courier says there are three meanings to the phrase "The Union." The first is, the Union as it existed under the Revolutionary Confederation; the second is, the Union under the Constitution; the third is the Union as the radicals are trying to reconstruct it. The first is a Confederate Union; the second a Constitutional Union; the third a Consolidated Union.—The first is the Union of Secessionists, the second is the Union of Conservatives, the third is the Union of the Abolitionists.

President Lincoln, in his letter to Horace Greeley, and again, in his letter to the Springfield, Illinois, meeting, declared that he was for the Union with or without slavery; but in his late message he claims that seceded States must abolish slavery, or they cannot be recognized as States. He now declares that he is for the Union without slavery. Is he an Unconditional, or a Conditional Union man, or what is he?

Secretary Stanton, it is positively stated, has assured several Philadelphia negroes of a speculative turn of mind, that negroes shall hereafter be placed upon the same footing with whites in the matter of contracts; whereas, it is said, the Shoddyites are very indignant.

A Washington correspondent of a Western paper asserts that Senator Jim Lane was seriously exercised at the failure of the House to elect Mr. Stockton Chaplain to the Senate, because, said he, "It repeats the Lord's prayer every morning, and before the end of this Congress he would have kept it up till some of these members would have learned it!"

A "FAT TAKE."—A journeyman printer, engaged on one of the daily newspapers at Boston, has just received information that a legacy of \$7,500 is awaiting his acceptance on the other side of the water, and that there is more of the same sort in store for the same individual.

A JOKE FOR THE OFFICE SEEKERS.—Lincoln is said to have a good joke upon all applicants for office. He expresses his regret that he has no vacant place, and that the command of the Army of the Potomac. All decline that, and depart for home satisfied that the President has made them the best offer in his power.

THE RADICALS AND THE MESSAGE.—The Washington correspondent of the St. Louis Democrat (Radical) thus writes of the President's message: "There is no use of attempting to disguise the fact that the impression produced by it as a whole, is unfavorable, and has not served to strengthen its author."

The Philadelphia Age says: "Our Magna Charta was not wrong from any tyrant, nor our habeas corpus from any Charles II." There is the trouble: If we had won it, through tears, suffering, and blood, it would not have been so carelessly thrown away.

The Legislature of Alabama has voted that the carpets that cover the floor of the Senate Chamber, Hall of Representatives, and all officers' and committee rooms in the capitol at Montgomery, be cut up and given to the soldiers of the army for blankets.

Investigations into the affairs of the Quartermaster's Department at Alexandria are still progressing, and the old Capitol receives almost daily some of the parties implicated in the recent frauds. The contractors come in for a full share of the penalties.

The N. Y. Herald gives Lincoln up—hear it: "We abandon 'Honest Old Abe' as a hopeless case. We have puffed him, we have praised him, and have helped him in every way, but can get no good out of him." It is reported that letters have been received from Gen. Grant, which state that it is against his wishes and consent that his name is so conspicuously brought forward in some of the New York journals for the Presidency.

Keep it Before the People. Hon. Chas. Dennison Democratic member of Congress for the Lazerne District, recently offered a resolution in Congress, increasing the pay of the soldiers in the army, per month, to \$30. For this righteous measure every Democrat in Congress voted, but it was voted down by the Republicans. The same day, Mr. Washburne, who had talked and voted against paying the poor soldiers even one dollar per day, introduced and passed a bill paying the clerks at the capitol \$4 per day, and that only for about six hours' work, each day. Who are the Soldiers' Friends?

The "International Mill." The Heenan and King fight, at Tunbridge, England, on the morning of Dec. 10th, lasted thirty-one minutes, King winning on the 25th round. The prize was ten thousand dollars. It is said that Morrissey will win between \$36,000 and \$45,000 on the Heenan and King contest, which he carefully laid out in bets. On the other hand, the proprietor of a Broadway saloon has lost \$12,000 on the fight. Neil Bryant, the champion chess-player, is said to have "gone in" to the tune of \$30,000 on Heenan, and is, of course, "gone up." It is estimated that between \$100,000 and \$200,000 changed hands in this country on the result.

THE AGE OF PURITY RESTORED.—Fourteenth Street, Washington, is said to contain, throughout its whole length, south from Willard's, not one house that is not a house of ill-fame. A contract has just been made to build a house of the same character that is to cost \$80,000! Old Babylon and ancient Rome were models of purity, compared with Washington under Republican rule—the party whose platform was to "restore the Government to the purity of the Fathers." Perhaps they meant the very early fathers—those who lived in Herculaneum and Pompeii, and the exhausted stony symbols of whose faith and practices have in modern times excited the astonishment (but not the admiration) of beholders.—[Hartford Times.]

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A REMARKABLE SPEECH. A remarkable speech had been made by Senator Brown, of Mississippi, urging the extreme measures for raising men and money to carry on the rebellion.

PRICES GOING STILL HIGHER. The prices of provisions in Richmond were still going higher, and the supply was short. The people were called upon to bring forward their bullion, gold and silver plate, &c.

The Health of the President. The Philadelphia Inquirer announces the fact, that "the President has so far recovered his health as to enable him to visit Ford's Theatre nightly, to witness Hackett." We suggest the propriety of the war clergy calling their flocks together, and after the style in monarchical countries, thanking God that our illustrious Chief Magistrate is so far recovered in health as to be able to visit a second class theatre nightly, to listen to the vulgar jokes of a low comedian.—[Fulton Democrat.]

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THE FLEET OFF CHARLESTON. Boston, Dec. 30.—The usually well posted correspondent to the Boston Herald, writing from the fleet off Charleston, dated Dec. 28, says: "I see by the papers that there is a great deal of uneasiness because the Navy here is idle. Let me say that if the people at the North only knew the reason why we are idle, they would stop grumbling. In due season they will have a chance to rejoice over the doings of the Navy before Charleston. To prove that this is no idle statement, I am willing to wager one hundred dollars with any Northern grumbler, that, if everything works according to the plans laid out, Charleston will be occupied by our forces sixty days from date."

Gen. Averill's Raid. Files of Richmond papers to the 22d inst., say much excitement had been occasioned by Gen. Averill's daring raid, and all the accounts of the vast destruction of property by his command are fully confirmed. It was thought at one time, he was endeavoring to reach Danville and liberate the Union prisoners there. The rebels were confident of capturing him, and declared that if he escaped their cavalry had better be re-organized.

Harper's Ferry, Dec. 28, 9 p. m.—Brig. General Callum, Chief of Staff:—General Sullivan's column returned safely, bringing one hundred prisoners, about a hundred horses, equipments, &c. My different columns are now safely back. They captured in all over four hundred prisoners and a large quantity of property. My plans and orders have been promptly and faithfully executed, with a single exception, and with a small loss on our part. B. F. KELLY, Brigadier General.

Two boys, recently committed to the jail in Shelby, Ind., had their throats cut from ear to ear, by an insane man, who was confined in the same apartment. A mob soon after took possession of the jail, dragged the insane man out, and were about hanging, when he was taken from them by more sensible people. If any one ought to be hung it was the person or persons who confined the boys in a room with such a maniac.

Among the patients in the lunatic asylum at Milledgeville, Georgia, is a celebrated African missionary and writer, Dr. Brown. Since he has been confined he has written a spelling book and grammar, which have been published, and is now engaged on a work on chemistry and philosophy.

News.

A Successful Cavalry Expedition. A correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune, writing from Bealton Station on the 27th, says: On Monday, December 21st, the Maine Cavalry, Col. O. M. Smith, accompanied by the 2d, 8th and 16th Pennsylvania Cavalry, left Bealton Station at noon, and marched rapidly to Sulpher Springs, where, after a short halt, they proceeded to Amisville, where the advance guard of the expedition charged upon a small party of rebels, capturing one prisoner. Reaching Gaines' Cross Roads, another small party of guerrillas were discovered and driven to the mountains. Pushing on the expedition reached Sperryville, where a small rebel force held Thornton Gap, and offered considerable resistance to our troops, but were obliged to beat a precipitate retreat. On the night of the 22d, our forces were encamped within four miles of the neat little town of Luray. During the night our pickets were attacked by a portion of Gilmore's guerrillas. A short skirmish satisfied them that prudence was the better part of valor, and they retreated, carrying off their wounded.

At daylight on the 23d inst. the expedition encountered a feeble picket force in front of Luray, a stronger force being stationed in the town. A gallant charge scattered them in all directions, and a number of prisoners fell into our hands. Two deserters entered our lines at this point. At Luray, Col. C. H. Smith, commanding the expedition, sent officers to examine the post-office, jail, and other public buildings. A number of copyrights had been removed from the jail, upon learning of our approach. Orders were given for the destruction of a three-story building, used as an extensive saddle and harness manufactory, and stored with cavalry and artillery stock and equipments. Adjoining this building a large tannery, filled with raw and finished stock, to the value of several hundred thousand dollars, was burned and otherwise destroyed. On the return march, five other tanneries were destroyed by fire, with their contents, between Luray and Sperryville. Near Sperryville, a two-horse sutler wagon was captured, containing a rebel mail and a quantity of medicines and dry goods. This team was on its way from the Upper Potomac to the rebel lines. At little Washington a charge was made upon a gang of Moseby's men, resulting in killing one and capturing another. The entire expedition reached its camp on Christmas eve, well supplied with poultry for their Christmas dinner, having marched 125 miles, inflicting a serious blow to the enemy, and capturing a number of prisoners, without the slightest casualty. The prisoners had \$7,000 in rebel shimplasters when captured.

Among a long list published in the Bulletin, of men who were drafted in this county, but failed to report, and "are liable to be arrested as deserters," is the name of James Hurling, late of this place. If anybody wants to arrest him as a "deserter," they will find him in his grave, at Clear Spring, Maryland, where he died while in the military service of the Government.—[Williamsport Gazette.]

"Old Abe's" last and most stupendous joke is his offer of amnesty to the slaveholding Hotspurs of the South upon condition that they become abolitionists after the Garrison pattern. It is horrible plesantry, however, in view of the hideous waste of blood and treasure his ill-timed joke will occasion.—[N. Y. World.]

Politeness goes a good ways. Henry Ward Beecher says "an impudent clerk can do as much injury to a store as the neglect of the proprietor to advertise his goods." Two undoubted and significant facts which every one interested will please bear in mind.

The Administration at Washington, and Congress, care more to free the negroes than to restore the Union. All their actions prove this.—[Pottsville Democratic Standard.]

And their actions also prove that they care much more for the freedom of the negro than for the liberty of the white man.—[Age.]

PITTSBURGH MARKETS. PITTSBURGH, Saturday, Jan. 2. Hay.—The receipts being limited, holders were firm. Sales were made at the scales at \$40 and 41 per ton. Baled firm. Straw was unchanged.

Flour.—We could perceive no change in the market. Holders were firm and held out for the outside rates. The principal business done was from store by the dry load to meet the wants of the local trade. Among the sales were 820 bbls. at Extra—\$6.00. Extra Family—\$7.75. Some choice brands were held higher; wagon Flour was unchanged.

Apples.—The market contains an abundant supply. We note sales of 320 bbls. at \$3.25 on the wharf; sales 100 bbls. from store, at \$2.80 per bbl.

Butter.—The demand has fallen off. Sales of Fresh Roll was made from store at 26¢ at 25¢.

The supply has increased. Sales 1,200 dozen at 22¢ and 23¢ per doz.

Lard.—Was firm, and prices are looking up. Sales of 90 tons at 18¢ per lb.

Dried Fruit.—The demand is improving. Holders are endeavoring to excite the market.

Prices of Goods at the South.

The following prices were obtained at an auction sale of goods, at Wilmington, N. C. a few days ago: French wove corsets, \$25 each; Welsh flannel, \$7.75 to \$8; fancy shirting, \$5; bleached shirting, \$4.15 to 4.55; woolen cloth, \$21 to \$29; broad cloth, \$65; black do. \$55; cambric handkerchiefs, \$35 per dozen; shawls, \$75 each; fancy flannel shirts, \$230 per dozen; pins, \$10.25 per pound; age; whole and colored hose, \$36; shoe thread, \$9.15 to \$9.87; flax thread, \$12.12 per lb; bonnet frames, \$25 per dozen; envelopes, \$50 to \$60 per M; note paper, \$50; printing paper, \$3.37 per lb; steel pens, \$5.61 to \$10.25; pen holders, \$15.50 per gross; playing cards, \$38 per dozen packs; Bourbon whiskey, \$205 to 225 per doz; sperm candles, \$10; Jamaica coffee, \$7.62; Congou tea, \$9.92 to 11; sugar, \$2.85 for brown, \$4.12 to \$4.40 for crushed, \$5.25 to \$5.40 per pound; salmon \$410 to \$415; mackerel, \$200 per barrel; sardines, \$4.12 to \$5.87 per box; pickles, \$125 per dozen jars; ladies' gaiters, \$35 to \$47; ladies' grain boots, \$28.50; ladies' kid boots, \$50; girls and misses cashmere boots, \$24; French calf bluchers, \$44; russett brogans, \$27; russett cavalry boots, \$65; short Wellington boots, \$50 per pair; alcohol, 70 to 72; brandy, \$92.50 to \$107.50; Holland gin, \$45 to \$53; whiskey, \$58.50 to \$62; rum, \$39.50 per gallon; olive oil, \$33 per gallon.

Congress.

Congress has adjourned without amending the Enrollment act; and if any draft is to be made on the 5th of January next it must be made from the first class, and with the \$300 commutation clause in force. It is stated that it is the intention of the government to go on with drafting from the first class, expecting that Congress will speedily authorize the consolidation of the two classes, so that a draft can be made upon the second class before the expiration of the month of February. Gen. Schenck is very strongly in favor of the consolidation of the two classes and has so expressed himself in the House; while Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, is opposed to the proposed change. Congress will consolidate the classes, however, immediately after the adjournment. It is considered certain, however, that the commutation clause in the present act will not be abolished. The voice of the entire country seems to be against it. Mr. Wilson, of the Senate Military Committee expresses the opinion that the much-debated clause will be retained, and that it should be retained.

Terrible Railroad Accident.

The Washington Chronicle learns that about six o'clock on Saturday evening the train from Brandy station ran off the embankment at Bristow Station, destroying several yards of the track, the locomotive, and four cars, besides killing four men and wounding fifteen. At the time of the accident, the train was moving at the rate of at least 20 miles an hour. At Bristow Station, where there is a switch, the track is in bad condition. Within eighty yards of the scene of the accident is a bridge of considerable size, which must have given way had the train proceeded farther, thus rendering certain the loss of at least one hundred lives.

It is stated as the cause of the catastrophe, that the switch having become unmovable further than to a certain point, the person whose duty it was to change it ran up the track towards the coming train and attempted to stop it; but being unprovided with either lantern or torch, his efforts were fruitless.

The Fleet off Charleston.

Boston, Dec. 30.—The usually well posted correspondent to the Boston Herald, writing from the fleet off Charleston, dated Dec. 28, says: "I see by the papers that there is a great deal of uneasiness because the Navy here is idle. Let me say that if the people at the North only knew the reason why we are idle, they would stop grumbling. In due season they will have a chance to rejoice over the doings of the Navy before Charleston. To prove that this is no idle statement, I am willing to wager one hundred dollars with any Northern grumbler, that, if everything works according to the plans laid out, Charleston will be occupied by our forces sixty days from date."

Gen. Averill's Raid.

Files of Richmond papers to the 22d inst., say much excitement had been occasioned by Gen. Averill's daring raid, and all the accounts of the vast destruction of property by his command are fully confirmed. It was thought at one time, he was endeavoring to reach Danville and liberate the Union prisoners there. The rebels were confident of capturing him, and declared that if he escaped their cavalry had better be re-organized.

Harper's Ferry, Dec. 28, 9 p. m.—Brig. General Callum, Chief of Staff:—General Sullivan's column returned safely, bringing one hundred prisoners, about a hundred horses, equipments, &c. My different columns are now safely back. They captured in all over four hundred prisoners and a large quantity of property. My plans and orders have been promptly and faithfully executed, with a single exception, and with a small loss on our part. B. F. KELLY, Brigadier General.

Two boys, recently committed to the jail in Shelby, Ind., had their throats cut from ear to ear, by an insane man, who was confined in the same apartment. A mob soon after took possession of the jail, dragged the insane man out, and were about hanging, when he was taken from them by more sensible people. If any one ought to be hung it was the person or persons who confined the boys in a room with such a maniac.

Among the patients in the lunatic asylum at Milledgeville, Georgia, is a celebrated African missionary and writer, Dr. Brown. Since he has been confined he has written a spelling book and grammar, which have been published, and is now engaged on a work on chemistry and philosophy.

Gen. George B. McClellan.

The Hartford Times recalls attention to the well-grounded belief that Gen. McClellan would have gone into Richmond, in the peninsular campaign, if the Administration had permitted McDowell to advance with his forty thousand men and to hold Stonewall Jackson in check, as McClellan requested. The Times adds: "After Pope's defeat, he rallied the disorganized troops, and beat Lee in two pitched battles in the brief space of eight weeks. He was then within 48 hours of another battle in which he was confident he could most thoroughly defeat and break up Lee's army—and then he was removed. What has been done since? What has the year and a half produced by the change?"

Desperation of the Rebel Congress. In the rebel Congress measures of a desperate nature, prompted by desperate necessity, were being speedily framed and adopted. The House had passed a bill to prohibit the circulation of and traffic in United States currency. Also, a bill abolishing the system of substitutes in the army, and compelling those who have furnished substitutes to enter the army in person, at the same time holding on to the substitutes.

A REMARKABLE SPEECH. A remarkable speech had been made by Senator Brown, of Mississippi, urging the extreme measures for raising men and money to carry on the rebellion.

PRICES GOING STILL HIGHER. The prices of provisions in Richmond were still going higher, and the supply was short. The people were called upon to bring forward their bullion, gold and silver plate, &c.