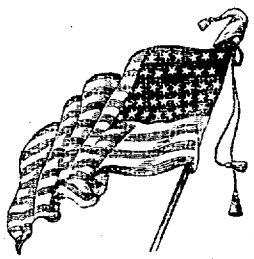


Daily Telegraph.



Forever float that standard sheet!
Where breathes the foe but falls before us!
With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us!

OUR PLATFORM.

THE UNION—THE CONSTITUTION—AND
THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW.

THE UNITED STATES LAWS

ARE PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY IN
THE PENNSYLVANIA DAILY TELEGRAPH.

HARRISBURG, PA.

Tuesday Afternoon, December 17, 1861.

DECISIVE.

The traitors of Arkansas will brook no loyalty to the Union in their vicinity, provided they can outnumber and overpower the Union men thus discovered. This fact is horribly substantiated by a telegraphic despatch on our first page, setting forth that in various localities in Arkansas, Union societies had been formed which, had it not been for the treachery of some of its members, would have been able to have resisted the rebels. But unfortunately the betrayal came when the societies were unable to meet their foes, and the result was the immediate execution of several highly respectable citizens, because they were attached to these societies, and had thus declared themselves in favor of the Union. Others, of these Union men have been imprisoned and will no doubt also be hung. These facts are entirely published for the benefit of the peace men. They are printed to show the malevolent spirit of those who conduct this crusade against civil and religious liberty, law and order, personal safety and domestic security. That slavery may flourish, the dearest rights of the white man in the slave states are sacrificed. That slavery may be made secure, all that we are as a nation, with our homes and our industry, must be trampled under foot. It seems that this nation will only gather wisdom and fortitude to crush this rebellion, as the hearts of the people become sickened with the atrocities of treason, and that our incentives to action must come from the sanguinary acts of our enemies instead of from the sensible convictions of our friends. But if the people are suffered to become desperate by doubt and delay, and the hour of disaster, those who now seek to postpone and ameliorate the means to crush rebellion, will tremble as they mourn their folly, if they do not perish as the rebellion perishes.

ALLEGED UNHEALTHINESS OF CAMP CURTIN.

HARRISBURG, Dec. 16.
The story set afloat by the PENNSYLVANIA TELEGRAPH, the abolition organ published here, relative to sickness and neglect of the soldiers in Camp Curtin, it is now understood, was prompted solely by malice towards Governor Curtin. There is not the shadow of truth in any of its assertions against this camp.
The above is printed in the Philadelphia Evening Journal of yesterday, as a special telegraphic despatch from this city. In its allegation on the subject of the unhealthiness of Camp Curtin, it is manifestly false, because we have defended the cleanliness and health of that camp, and were instrumental solely in contradicting the statements in regard to sickness in that locality. In its pretension to being a special despatch from this city, it is in keeping with the other falsifications on which the Journal bases its claims to patronage in Philadelphia. No such despatch ever passed over the wires from this city, as we were assured by the operators in the various telegraphic offices in Harrisburg. So much for the enterprise and statements of the Journal.

MULTIPLYING NEGROES.—The slaves in this country increased twenty-five per cent. during the last decade, and they have averaged that rate of multiplication for the last fifty years, and this wholly by natural increase, the African slave trade having ceased in 1808. During the last decade the free negroes in this country increased only ten and one-half per cent., and by natural increase certainly not more than five per cent., their numbers being constantly swollen by manumissions and escapes from slavery. This fact of the slow increase of free negroes has been constantly observed in this country. Some of the causes of this slow increase of free negroes, are obscure. Others are plain. But the fact itself is undisputed and indisputable. The four millions of negroes which we have to-day in the condition of slavery, will, if left in that condition, become five millions in ten years. If emancipated, their increase in ten years, instead of being one million, will only be one-fifth of that amount, taking the results of the last decade as the guide of the calculation. It is slavery, which is the breeding mother of negroes. By emancipation, we shall have eight hundred thousand fewer negroes in the country in 1870, than we shall have by continuing slavery.

ISAAC W. FOWLER, the defaulting Post-Master of New York, is carrying on the tobacco business in Mexico. Under any Government in the world except that of Mr. Buchanan such a man would be serving the State in a Penitentiary; but Mr. F. was fortunate in serving an Administration that paid a premium on rascality.

The official report of the registered seamen in the Union during the year ending the 30th of September, was 4,517, of whom only 147 were naturalized.

ARGUMENT AND SYMPATHY FOR TRAITORS.

There is no fact so glaring as that of the argument and sympathy for traitors, with which a certain class of men in the north have persistently embarrassed all the efforts of the government to suppress the rebellion. They are constantly reminding the government that the Constitution is a sacred instrument which must be conformed to in our struggles with traitors. They are anxious alone that its provisions should be enforced when a rebel is in danger, and in their eyes no right is so sacred in this contest, as that which gives to one man the power to enslave another. Here is the secret of the rebellion, and here, too, is the incentive to sympathy. The south has rebelled in order to advance slavery, and the Constitutional doctors in the loyal states are moved to argument and sympathy for the rebel slave drivers because the efforts of the government to crush rebellion tend naturally to the destruction of the institution of slavery. This is the position in which the people and the legitimate government of the country are placed. On the one side, we have a band of desperate men fighting for a desperate measure, determined to succeed if fire and flood, persecution and assassination can accomplish their purposes. On the other side, and in our own midst, we have a class of men who have suddenly become entirely solicitous for the Constitution. If a measure of retaliation is proposed, it must first be ascertained whether it is Constitutional. If a project for victory is matured, its policy must be established before a rifle can be leveled or a sword drawn. And in this style all our aims have been frustrated, with the rebellion gathering strength in numbers, aid in sympathy, and prestige in the successful maintenance of its belligerence. It has done this ever since the battle of Bull Run—and it will continue to do so, until this government responds to the people instead of the politicians, and strikes a blow at the vital part of treason by making that bear the brunt of the war which has been the cause of the rebellion.

While these arguments and sympathy for treason are uttered by the secret traitors in the loyal states, the great majority of the people are irresistibly tending to the only means with God's aid which can crush this rebellion. We must either exterminate the race of traitors in all sections, or we must emancipate the race of slaves. To delay one or the other of these purposes, is only to increase our own danger and jeopard the perpetuity of free institutions, because as certain as this rebellion is allowed to go on unchecked for three months' longer, so certain will Republicanism become a mockery, freedom an idle dream, and the government which once wielded power and elicited respect among these states, will become so mean that there will be none so poor to do it reverence among the nations of the world. And all this, too, will be owing to the fact that we are fearful of using the means within our grasp for the punishment of traitors—that we lack the courage of meeting our foes on their own ground, and hesitate about expediencies when utter destruction menaces us on all sides. If this nation was being tried for its sin in this rebellion, it would be sufficient to establish the truth of the accusation. But as we are a nation yet of sane and vigorous men, may God hasten conviction and strengthen the courage of our rulers to lead us to victory and peace.

TO CONSERVATIVE AND PEACE MEN.

While a few seedy politicians and secretly anxious sympathizers with the leaders of the rebellion are constantly striving to embarrass the loyal cause by loading it down with formal protests against vigorous measures or any attempt to interfere with the prerogatives or purposes of slavery, the advocates of that institution boldly declare that they intend to resort to any means to secure the success of the rebellion. The rebels, in fact have only one object in view. They strive for success that slavery may predominate, regardless of the means used or the effects produced on all other interests and institutions. Among those who are engaged in this work, we hear nothing on the subject of humanity, Constitutionality or right. They admit no construction of principle or law which in the least affects their cause. In comparison with these efforts and claims on the part of the rebels, the efforts of some of those who assert a loyalty for this government become very sickly and contemptible. Particularly are the efforts of those who are so anxious that the rebel south should have the benefit of all the provisions of the Constitution, mean and contemptible, as well in the estimation of loyal men as in the sight of rebels, if we dare judge from the following from the Norfolk Day Book:—

"We would recommend to those 'Constitution' cobbler the peculiar virtues of 'Spaulding's Glue' for their purpose, with the assurance that they will find quite as much virtue in that article as they would likely find in the combined wisdom of all the statesmen in the world for the repair and preservation of an instrument that has been so badly rent as what was once the 'Constitution of the United States.' As for their Union for them, being composed of such despicable, forsaken scoundrels as were never raked together in one parcel since the world has been a world. It is now a perfect dog-eat-dog conglomeration of negro thieves and pirates; and, as they have got rid of the honest people of the south, they are now at liberty to go with a rush."

THE READING JOURNAL makes some suggestions on the subject of the manner in which the tax for war purposes shall be collected in this state, in which we freely acquiesce. To assess and collect the same allotted, separately from the ordinary state and county taxes, would be a work of great vexation and expense. It would multiply office holders, and sorely oppress the people. By the law of Congress it is provided that if the state authorities shall assume the payment of this tax into the national treasury, an abatement of fifteen per cent. of the quota shall be made. We hope that Governor Curtin will take occasion to press this subject upon the legislature in his annual message, and that they will promptly direct the proper measures to be taken to pay over the tax and have the amount collected from the people under the present assessment of taxable property. By such action expedition and economy will be happily combined.

Rough Notes from the Capital.

We clip the following interesting letter from the Aurora Beacon, one of the leading journals in the state of Illinois. It is a voice from the prairie state that deserves an echo in Pennsylvania, and therefore we reprint the letter. It is dated as follows, at

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28, 1861.

The Beacon's "Potomac" having dried up, or been "blockaded," and "J. W. R." having become a "big Indian chief," which interferes (only temporarily, I trust) with their excellent correspondence—you may find space occasionally for a few "rough notes."

And first of all, allow me to express my most unqualified admiration at the wise and patriotic course taken by the Beacon. It comes to me every week, here among strangers, and as I read the "local" and peruse every advertisement read the "local" and peruse every advertisement I forget for the once that I am not in Aurora, the sweet village of the Fox River Valley. But the list of letters has an attraction—and oh, how intensely interesting are the letters from the camps. But what I am most pleased with, is the tone of the editorials, in that you have not fallen into the almost universal practice of "pitching in" to somebody; without indulging in common-place puffing; you have wisely forbore to find fault when doing so would do no good, but immense harm.

I hear every day that—"the people of the West are mad," because this or the other thing does not go to suit them. "Mr. Seward is a coward and a traitor." "Cameron is as corrupt as the evil one." "Well, is a fool." "Lincoln is led by the nose by a parcel of old fogies"—and so on ad infinitum. None of this bosh have I seen in the Beacon. And allow me to say, that in my opinion, History will put down this Administration as the ablest, most patriotic, most self-sacrificing and untiring that we ever had.

Suppose Mr. Seward resorted to expedients to avert the war in which we are now engaged; is this the time for our Republican newspapers to bring him to task? As a Minister of Foreign Affairs he has not a rival in this country, nor a superior out of it. Under circumstances the most tempting to the cupidity of England and France—the ruling classes, the powers that be in those grand empires, gloating over our misfortunes, Mr. Seward has kept us thus far from serious collision—and will—even though the confederates send commissioners on every English mail vessel. This Thanksgiving Day—I most reverently thank the God of nations—the Ruler of the Universe—that in this day of national peril, we have Wm. H. Seward as Secretary of State.

And Mr. Cameron—"what curses have been heaped upon his head since last March!" I never had any conception of what the old Jewish scape-goat had to bear until about the time the editors of that noble, but unfortunate paper, the Chicago Tribune, were engaged in drafting resolutions of "want of confidence in the Secretary of War." How from every quarter came curses loud and deep! A Wisconsin friend wrote to me thus: "In times of great public calamity, the people must have a victim; if it is not one man, it must be another. There was a great deal of philosophy in that old Jewish institution of the scape-goat. It is Mr. Cameron's misfortune to be that victim. Let him be true to himself and he will outlive the storm; and there is this consolation for him, that the most abused man of to-day is often the idol of to-morrow."

How true? For this very day I have two letters from the west, from each of which I will make a short extract.
"The predictions of his [Cameron's] friends are being fully verified. I am rejoiced to see the strength and fortitude he has displayed in the discharge of his duties."
"How completely he has frustrated the designs of those who have been plotting him off a page in the history of this rebellion. He is coming out of the fiery furnace like fine gold."

And here is what I copy from a letter written from the sick bed of one of God's own children, who cut himself off, in his younger years, from social position, and from all prospects of a political distinction, rather than fall down to the Moloch of Slavery, and has kept the faith until now, that he weeps for joy at the prospect of salvation of his country.

"But I have a higher and higher opinion of the intelligence, clear-minded ability and statesmanlike integrity and patriotism of Gen. Cameron. You have no idea of a perfect scream of enthusiasm amongst all classes of people on the position of the brave old veteran of the War Department."
"I thank God, that Simon Cameron—the abused and traduced CROMWELL OF THIS WAR—is fast being understood."

For Mr. Welles—let Hatteras speak! let the grand armada and Beaufort speak! let "Old Wilkes" have a word in.

I have been in this beleaguered city since last January—when one by one the representatives of the rebel states retired from Congress—and "Old Buck" was wringing his hands in agony—but doing nothing to stop the mischief; was here when the Massachusetts boys were attacked in Baltimore—when the railroad bridges were burnt—when New York papers four days old sold for fifty cents—when from home was worth any amount of money, but not to be had—when patrolling the streets all night long to defend the city from traitors within, as well as without, we felt no certainty that "We should see by the dawn's early light, what so proudly we halloed at the twilight's last gleaming!"—was here during the battle of Bull Run, and the never-to-be-forgotten blue Monday which followed. During all that time many things have gone wrong—errors have been made, but there has been no hour so dark, no blunder so fatal as when the radical Republican press opened its batteries upon the Administration. Then it was that I well might despair of the Republic.

For what could be hoped for when those upon whom the burden rested—giving every thought—every energy, and straining every nerve to the utmost—were being stabbed to the vitæ by the very men who placed them in their positions—positions much less of honor and emolument, than of care and anxiety—of days without rest, and nights without sleep. [I am interrupted just here, by an order to repair forthwith to the headquarters of the 8th Illinois Cavalry, to dinner. The rest of this letter will follow next week. I am o-p-h.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.
Flour buoyant—sales of 13,000 bbls. Wheat advanced—35,000 bus. sold at 13½ for Milwaukee, \$1.40 for Red State, \$1.40 for Red Western. Corn quiet—sales at 68c for mixed. Provisions quiet and unchanged. Stocks are better since the board, but the quotations are lower: Connecticut and Rhode Island 48½; Central Railroad, 59; Michigan Southern 37½; New York Central, 84; Milwaukee and Mississippi, 38; Missouri 68, 84; Tennessee 68, 40; Illinois Central bonds, 79; California 78, 80; U. S. 6s, 1867, 88. Cotton has an advancing tendency, and 41c is asked for uplands. All coffee has been withdrawn from the market.

THE EUROPA AT BOSTON.

Boston, Dec. 17.
The steamer Europa has been signalled off Cape Cod and will be up about half past three o'clock. The Conrad steamer Africa is detained, and will not sail till Friday morning.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR PORT ROYAL.

New York, Dec. 17.
The steamer Vanderbilt sailed this morning for Port Royal with a detachment of Col. Serrell's engineer regiment.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

The Great Conflagration at Charleston.

ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS.

Special Message of Jeff. Davis on the Fire to the Confederate Congress

\$250,000 APPROPRIATED TO THE SUFFERERS.

Advance of the United States Army at Port Royal.

DESTRUCTION OF REBEL RIFLE PITS.

Ben. McCullough at Richmond.

FORT PULASKI, GA., EVACUATED BY THE REBELS.

ITS OCCUPATION BY U. S. TROOPS.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 16.

Capt. Millward went to Craney Island to-day with a flag of truce, and was met by Lieutenant Smith, of the Island.

No passengers came down.

Norfolk and Richmond papers give full particulars of the extensive conflagration in Charleston, South Carolina.

The fire broke out at about 9 o'clock in the evening of the 11th in Russell & Old's sash and blind factory at the foot of Hazel street, crossing Hazel street, extending to the machine shop of Cameron & Co. Before midnight the fire had assumed an appalling magnitude and meeting street from Market to Queen was one mass of flames as tenement after tenement was enveloped in flames.

The panic was awful, and thousands of families evacuated their houses and filled the streets.

The buildings in the lower part of the city where the fire broke out were principally of wood and extremely inflammable, which accounts for the remarkable rapid progress of the fire.

At midnight the Circular Church and the Institute Hall were burning, and the proximity of the flames to the Charleston Hotel and the Mills House caused them to be evacuated by their inmates.

At one o'clock the fire tended more southwards towards the corner of Archdale and Queen streets to the rear of the Charleston Hotel and to the end of Hayne street range. Crossing Market street the fire spread down East Bay to Cumberland streets and across to the Mills House, including in its destruction the Circular Church, Institute Hall and the Charleston Hotel. All the buildings on King from Clifford nearly to Broad streets were destroyed. Before 3 o'clock, General Ripley who superintended the movement of troops who had arrived on the scene, about this time ordered several buildings in the route of the conflagration to be blown up and after some delay the order was executed, but not before the theatre, Floyd's coach factory opposite the express office, the old executive building and all the houses from this point to Queen street had been consumed.

A dispatch from Charleston on the 13th, says the Mills House, although threatened, and several times on fire, eventually escaped, and is only slightly damaged.

Five churches were destroyed by the Charleston fire—the Cathedral, St. Peter's, Episcopal, Cumberland Street Methodist and Circular church.

The Charleston Mercury says that five hundred and seventy six buildings were burned.

A message was sent to the Confederate Congress, on Friday, by President Davis, in relation to the conflagration at Charleston, recommending an appropriation in aid of the sufferers.

A resolution was accordingly unanimously adopted appropriating two hundred and fifty thousand dollars as an advance on account of claims of South Carolina upon Confederate States.

The Lynchburg Virginian of Friday says that a Maryland regiment had deserted from Lincoln's army with their arms and equipments. It was sent out as picket from Alexandria, and when it reached the front of our lines it hoisted the Confederate flag, and marched into Centerville, accompanied by the Colonel and all the other officers.

The Charleston Courier of Friday has a report from Beaufort stating that the Yankees advanced their position to near Port Royal ferry on Tuesday, and crossed the ferry under cover of artillery to the main land and destroyed several Confederate rifle pits.

The Richmond Examiner says that the Court of Commissioners to determine claims for indemnity for losses by the war, is to be organized at once. The President has appointed, and Congress in secret session has confirmed it, the following as the Commissioners: George P. Scarborough, of Virginia, Thos. C. Reynolds, of Missouri, and Walker Brooke, of Mississippi.

The Richmond Enquirer, of the 15th, acknowledges the receipt of the balance of clothing from Massachusetts for prisoners of war. It is assigned to Gen. C. Winder and will be distributed by Lieut. Flens, of the Twentieth Massachusetts regiment, who was taken prisoner at Leesburg.

The Norfolk Day Book was printed on a small half-sheet. It is to be raised in price to five cents, on Thursday.

RICHMOND, Dec. 14.—Official information has been received here that the Federals five thousand strong attacked Col. Edward Johnson's command at Valley Mountain, on the 13th but were repulsed with great loss after an engagement of several hours.

Ben. McCullough has arrived at Richmond. Col. F. S. Smith has relinquished the command of Craney Island and will take charge of the Virginia Military Institute.

The S. R. Spaulding has not yet arrived.

The passengers by the steamer reported the arrival of the steamer Connecticut at Old Point with intelligence that Fort Pulaski has been evacuated by the rebels and occupied by the Federal troops.

A VESSEL WRECKED UNDER SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES.

HALFAX, Dec. 16.

The schooner Wave from Philadelphia for New Foundland, has been wrecked under suspicious circumstances, and a part of her cargo brought here in a damaged condition. The remainder of the cargo it is expected will also be brought here.

FROM KENTUCKY.

GRAND REVIEW OF 17,000 TROOPS.

A Battle Reported in Progress at New Orleans.

REBEL INFANTRY AND GUN BOATS SHIPPED SOUTH.

The City Threatened with Demolition by the Federal Troops.

THE RESIDENTS FLYING FROM THE CITY.

A BATTLE IMMINENT IN KENTUCKY.

Union Feeling in the Legislature.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 17.

Special dispatches to the Gazette and Commercial state that a grand review and inspection of 17,000 troops took place yesterday at Cairo, Bird's Point and Fort Holt.

Four regiments of rebel infantry and three gun boats have been sent south from Columbia, Ky. Their destination is said to be New Orleans. Their destination is said to be New Orleans. Their destination is said to be New Orleans.

The residents were flying from the city. The mail from Somerset, Kentucky, is expected to come to hand to-day.

Gen. Buell is expected to take the field in person in a few days.

It is reported that our troops are crossing the Green river and that Buckner is coming up the railroad to offer battle on this side of Bowling Green.

In the Kentucky legislature several members made elaborate speeches in favor of the Union. The secessionists are jubilant over the prospect of a war with England. The Union men come square up to the mark and demand war before a word of apology.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 16.

Our army in Kentucky is within a short distance of Bowling Green. They have repaired the Green River bridge, and will move forward as soon as Gen. Buell can brigade and otherwise dispose of the large number of regiments now arriving. When this is done he will take command and move forward for Nashville. The 46th, 36th, 35th, 41st and 51st have left for Kentucky, making 10,000 men from Indiana in ten days. Sixty-two regiments have been paid off in Kentucky within the past 30 days.

FROM NEW YORK.

ARRIVAL OF THE GUNBOAT CONNECTICUT.

The Sloop-of-War Richmond at Key West Repairing.

AFFAIRS AT PORT ROYAL, &c.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.

The U. S. gunboat Connecticut has arrived. She left Galveston bar on the 29th ult., South-west past Dec. 1st, Ship Island Dec. 2nd, Mobile bar and Port Pichens on the 3rd, Key West on the 10th, Tybee Island on the 12th, and Fort Mifflin on the 16th. All the crews of the various blockading squadrons were well.

The U. S. sloop of war Richmond was at Key West repairing damages received during the fight at Port Pichens.

The Connecticut brings the crews of the captured pirate Royal yacht, and the captured steamers Anna and Henry Lewis.

The also brings as a prisoner, a marine, who attempted to desert from Ship Island; also, 13 of Wilson's Zouaves and a number of regulars from Port Pichens. There is nothing new from the latter place. A detachment of troops from Port Royal had landed on Tybee Island.

Nothing is said about Fort Pulaski, and the reported evacuation is probably untrue.

FROM ASPINWALL.

ARRIVAL OF THE CHAMPION.

\$1,000,000 IN TREASURE.

SHE IS CHASED BY AN UNKNOWN VESSEL.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.

The steamship Champion, from Aspinwall on the 7th, with the San Francisco mails of the 1st arrived at this port to-night with a large number of army officers, including Col. Sewall and Major Lovell.

She brings nearly a million dollars in treasure.

She reports on the 14th, in lat. 31 deg. 30 min., long. 74 deg., she was crossed by a three-masted propeller, and after an hour's chase, she hoisted the English flag, of which the Champion took no notice. The vessel is described as follows:

She was square rigged on her foremast, with round stern, and smoke-stack between main and mizzen mast; had two large boats, painted white, hanging to her davits midships. She was apparently a new iron vessel, with bottom painted a very bright red.

The United States ships Lancaster, Wyoming and Cyane were at Panama on the 6th. The steamer Narragansett was at Acapulco on the 19th.

XXXVIIth Congress—First Session.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.

IN SENATE.

A bill from the House was received to authorize the raising of a volunteer force for the defence of Kentucky.

On motion of Mr. POWELL, (Ken.) it was referred to the Military committee.

Mr. SUMNER, (Mass.) presented several petitions for the emancipation of the slaves of rebels.

Mr. WILSON reported a bill to increase the number of Cadets at West Point.

Mr. FORT, (Vt.) offered a resolution that the commissioners of public buildings inform the Senate by what authority a portion of the national capital had been converted into a bakery.

Agreed to.

Mr. SUMNER offered a resolution that the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by legislation that the army shall not be employed to surrender fugitive slaves. Laid over.

Mr. LATHAM, (Cal.) offered a resolution that the Secretary of War be requested to inform the Senate by notice of what law and for what reasons passports are required from passengers going from New York to San Francisco. Agreed to.

Mr. SHERMAN, (Ohio,) offered a resolution that the Secretary of War be requested to furnish the Senate with a copy of all correspondence between Gen. Scott and Gen. Patterson. Agreed to.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. BINGHAM, from the Judiciary committee, reported back the joint resolution directing and

requiring the Provost Court at Alexandria, Va., to retain and safely keep in its custody any property taken as that of persons engaged in, or aiding, the rebellion against the United States, until the further action of Congress touching the same. The resolution passed.

The House resumed the consideration of the special order being Mr. Elliott's resolutions proposing the emancipation of the slaves of rebels, &c.

Mr. HARDING, (Ky.) invoked a calm and patriotic consideration of the subject now before the House. It was with the deepest pain that he witnessed the introduction of the proposition at so early a period in the session, and the attempt to pass it under the operation of the previous question. He thought there was a disposition to exclude all reflection of a refusal to pause in the apparently mad career but when a disposition afterwards shown to act with deliberation his hopes revived. He proceeded to elaborate the following points of his opposition to the resolution:

First—We have no Constitutional power to pass them, or any bills or resolutions on the subject.

Second—That Congress, the President and the Administration stand pledged in the most public and solemn manner against all interference with slavery, as he proceeded to show from copious extracts. Therefore to sanction such a policy would be a palpable violation of plighted faith of this Government.

Third—He opposed the resolutions because legislation on the subject is forbidden by every principle of sound policy.

Fourth—He opposed them and all kindred measures because they would inaugurate a war which would involve in its horrors the loyal and disloyal, the innocent and the guilty. A warfare disgraceful to any civilized and Christian nation.

In the course of his remarks he said that this has nothing more to do with slavery than with any other institution. Let slavery alone; it will take care of itself. He showed the injustice of diverting the war from its original design—namely, the restoration of obedience to the Constitution and laws and the preservation of the Union.

Mr. KELLOGG, (Ill.) moved that the resolutions under consideration, and all those relating to the subject included in the same special order, be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Agreed to—yeas 77, nays 57.

CHARTER OF A BELGIUM STEAMER.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.

The Belgium steamer Gustav Bostor has been chartered by the Government for three months. She goes to Boston to take aboard troops.