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I concur most heartily with the above.
LEONARD H. EATON.

I cheerfully concur in the opinion expressed above.
W. B. FREW.

I take pleasure in giving it as my opinion that the foregoing recommendation is fully merited.
A. DURFF.

"I know of no one who deserves higher testimony in his favor.
R. K. AVERY.

"I fully concur in the above recommendation.
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TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 20.

FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

Gen. Hunter's Proclamation and its Effect.

LATE FROM CHARLESTON.

[From the N. Y. Evening Post of Saturday.]

By the arrival of the transport steamer Atlantic at this port to-day, we have late and important news from South Carolina. The Atlantic left Port Royal on the 14th instant, and brings Charleston papers to the 12th. The effect of General Hunter's proclamation and the beginning of the organization of the armed negroes into regiments of *Zouaves d'Afrique* are fully stated in the following letter from our correspondent at Port Royal.

PORT ROYAL, May 14, 1862.

On Saturday, the 10th, Major-General Hunter's order of emancipation (dated 9th) fell like a bombshell upon the community, black and white, of Port Royal. On Sunday, impatient, as it would seem, with the delay in recruiting his "Zouaves d'Afrique," the General ordered a collection of all the able-bodied negroes in the plantations held by us to be made at Hilton Head. This was done on Monday, without any explanation at first to the blacks, who submitted in considerable alarm, having the fear of Cuba and a forced conscription held up to them! It soon came out, however, that the General's intentions were eminently humane and judicious.

The crowd of darkies was put into a comfortable camp, well fed, and informed that they were to be registered and have free passes for them and their families; and after proper explanation of the terms and object of enlistment, were *to have their free choice to enlist or return to the plantation.*

HOW THE NEGROES TAKE THEIR FREEDOM.

I was one of a party who visited their camp this morning, at General Drayton's plantation, about two miles from the Head, and I never saw a happier looking crowd. They were busy at clearing more camp ground, cooking food and other necessary work, and all seemed activity and cheerfulness. Col. Kenzie, lately of Gen. Hunter's staff, commands the regiment. The company officers are taken from the non-commissioned officers and privates of our army, and those I saw there, headed by Capt. Trowbridge, of Co. A, seemed well chosen and full of the right spirit, and very sanguine of success, both in recruiting and in making a good regiment.

One officer ventured the opinion that when they got their music going, and a few of the Zouaves dressed in uniform, all would enlist who were fit to serve. Gen. Hunter, too, seemed determined that there should be no such word as fail.

THE MILITARY VIEW.

Among military men great differences of opinion prevail, but it is believed that, both with soldiers and officers, the movement will be popular, when it is seen how completely it is in the interest of the white soldier as well as the black—by furnishing a force for these kinds of duty and those locations in which the black is safe, while the white soldier can only serve at great hazard.

CLIMATE INFLUENCES.

The 15th of May is the extreme date when it is safe for whites to be exposed in certain localities, and even on Hilton Head the ordinary duties (lessened as they have been by General Hunter's military precautions) have caused a great deal of sickness. It is clear that, if the war lasts, we must profit by the example of England in the East and West Indies, and in hot reason keep our white troops only for an emergency, and put as much of the work of hard and exposure as possible upon our *black fellow-citizens*, now made free as a military necessity.

NEWS FROM CHARLESTON.

Returning with lighter hearts from our visit to the Zouaves d'Afrique we were met on the wharf with the good news of the evacuation of Norfolk, indicating as it does the despair of the rebels as to holding Virginia. This was brought by Robert Small, the pilot of the little steamer Pishter, which has been employed in transferring siege guns from one point to another around Charleston. He has long been planning this movement, but delayed it a little to bring some authentic good news with him; this he had in the evacuation of the Charleston *Courier* of Monday, 12th. He brought with him his family and three of his crew, and several valuable siege guns, including a fine eight-inch rifle. He cleverly got clear on Monday night of his white captain, shipped his family, and at daylight Tuesday boldly steered by the forts, giving his usual salute of the steam whistle, then, hoisting the white flag, he steered for our squadron, and reached here this morning. It is noteworthy that Gen. Hunter's order of emancipation, which was circulated here only on Saturday, had reached Charleston (its purport, at least,) before he left.

It is said that his vessel and guns are worth near $36,000, a prize to the blockading fleet. Will not Congress by unanimous consent give these bold fellows the full value of their prize as an encouragement to others? Robt. Small is a sharp-looking, intelligent fellow, of medium size and apparently about thirty years old.

THE *Evening Journal* saw in the departure of Gen. Rufus Saxton for South Carolina, as Military Governor, a premonitory symptom that Gen. Hunter was to be superseded for his "remarkable proclamation." But we imagine Gen. Saxton will be Military Governor only as Gen. Viele holds the same position at Norfolk, and Gen. Foster at Beaufort. General Saxton is a Massachusetts man, and has been in the regular army, chiefly in the Quartermaster's department.—*Chicago Tribune.*

Gen. Saxton is an Abolitionist of the ultra kind—a Massachusetts Abolitionist, and his wife Abolitionism was well known to the Government when he was appointed. Instead of opposing Gen. Hunter's "remarkable proclamation," he will co-operate with his superior officer in giving it force and efficacy.

CHARGES AGAINST COL. VAN WYCK.—A special to the New York *Times* says:

News reached Washington to-day of a painful character respecting Col. C. H. Van Wyck, member of Congress, Chairman of the Investigating Committee, now commanding a regiment in the field. He is said to be arrested by order of Gen. McClellan, and placed under close confinement, for peculiarities of identically the same character with those of which his Committee convicted others—frauds on the Government. I forbear details, with the hope that satisfactory explanations may be made.

A WASHINGTON letter says that Gen. M'Dowell's army has been recruited by nearly all the force commanded by Gen. Banks. This is the reason, we presume, why Banks has had to fall back to Strasburg. We suppose it is not intended at present to go up the valley to Staunton. Gen. Fremont is going up the valley on the western side of the Shenandoah Mountains, and comes into the Great Valley at or beyond Staunton, and take possession of the Railroad running to Knoxville.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA.—Edward M. Stanley, the new Governor of North Carolina, arrived in Washington on Friday. As soon as he receives his instructions he will depart for the scenes of his duty.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, May 16, 1862.

We begin now to see and taste some of the bitter fruits of the slaveholders' rebellion here. This city is now quite a Mecca of released Union prisoners, and poor wounded heroes, who fell maimed in the hotly contested conflict at Williamsburg. The story of these prisoners, such of them at least as I have conversed with, is doleful indeed. How men could live through what they have experienced, I can scarcely conceive. There are many indignities and wrongs which were heaped upon them too gross to repeat in your paper; too beastly to be thought of save by some traiter, or some secessionist in disguise, such as you have now apologising for the Southern savages in all Northern cities, calling it "Democracy!" A Philadelphia boy with whom I conversed, told me that he had soup served to him with vermin floating in it! The maggots in the meat were cooked at the same time with it.

"What did you do in that case?" I asked.

"Oh, it was that or nothing," said the poor fellow, "so I shut my eyes and ate it."

Many of our dear fellows looked so sad and woe-begone when they landed here! Many of them had the dirty, disgraceful secesh clothing—a sort of cinnamon colored, convict cloth, just fit for a secesh to wear, but not decent for a Union soldier to wipe his feet on. They had, however, been reduced to the indignity of having, in many instances, to dress like Jeff. Davis' ghouls. This seemed to set hard upon them. They feared they might be mistaken for prisoners from the vagabond hordes that defile the fair earth of Virginia. All of them looked war-worn, weary and bleached. So long had they been confined in the horrid pens of that land of desolation and terror, that the very sun had failed to shine with honest face upon theirs, poor fellows, and the sickly hue of the blasted air of slaveland had spread a pallor on their cheek. Who can think of that sad land of "secesh" without recalling some of those flaming scenes from Dante's Inferno, or descriptions of some withered and desert land where ghastly skeletons are behind each door, or in stone walls where the living man had been entombed!

But it does one's heart good to see how they all love the dear old flag now; they look upon it with a new pride; they *feel* what it means. I saw some of them walking in the Capitol grounds amid the pleasant shade of trees this afternoon, and they seemed so happy in their new freedom that I fairly envied them. As soon as the pay rolls of all the boys are completed, and they are paid off, they will have a furlough, when they shall see home and civilization again.

Besides these released prisoners, a long, sad train of ambulances bore to the hospitals hundreds of sick and wounded, who had come hither from the Peninsula. Accommodations are provided here for several thousand. They are all made very comfortable. To the credit of Governor Curtin be it said, he has spared no pains to secure the greatest possible amount of care to the Pennsylvania troops who may be sick or wounded. Dr. Puleston, agent for our State, remains here and devotes his time to their interests.

Then, there are, besides our own, a large boat load of the poor, deluded, miserable creatures, who have been taken prisoners—being wounded. Most of them are said to be horrid spectacles of filth and squalor, and their very faces stamped with malignant hate. Some of them die with foul imprecations against their country and its defenders upon their lips. Some of them, however, hoping, probably, to get well so that they may "*take the oath of allegiance*" and get back to fight again, seem quite penitent. They, all of them, have the same treatment as our wounded. The kindness exhibited towards them generally appears to be attributed by them to cowardice, as far as I can judge.

Yesterday and to-day I saw a new sight in Washington—about one hundred contrabands in a body going to work under the charge of officers. There is an abundance of work for them—horses to tend, lands about the city to drain, vessels to load and unload, etc., and they work as peaceably and willingly as any people in the world. Why not? They have worked peaceably all their lives for nothing; why not now do the same for pay?

I saw here yesterday, Mr. Wray, of P