

# THE RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.

Raftsmen's Journal.



BY S. J. RUS.

CLEARFIELD, PA., JULY 12, 1865.

## THE LATEST NEWS.

The proposed restoration by the Spanish authorities at Cuba, by order of the Queen of Spain, of the rebel ram *Savannah* to the Government of the United States, is another signal triumph of American diplomacy and valor. It yields the whole principle contended for by Mr. Seward and denied by the British statesmen. The correspondence on this important question will fully prove that the doctrine laid down and the demand insisted upon by the Secretary of State, in his intercourse with foreign powers since the rebellion broke out, have been generally if not graciously conceded. Adhering to the right, we have been victors on every field—those of argument and those of war inclusive.

A shocking railroad accident occurred at Elizabeth, N. J., on the 2d inst. Just as the train on the Central road was leaving the depot in that city, a stranger was seen to run toward it apparently with the intention of getting aboard. Just as he reached the cars he stumbled, and fell under the wheels, which passed over his head, completely severing it from his body, and reducing it to a pulp. The remains were sent to a man a shovel, and a corselet was sent for to view them, together with the lifeless trunk. Nothing was found on the body to serve as a clue, to ascertain who he was or where he belonged.

Among the papers of Jeff Davis, captured by the Government, has been discovered several documents of vital importance in determining the guilt and complicity of Jeff Davis in the conspiracy plot. These documents are of such importance as probably to determine the authorities in favor of the trial of Davis before a military commission upon the charge of treason. If he ever, it shall be determined to try him on a charge of treason, he will be tried in a civil court.

The Unionists of Charleston are petitioning that their cotton, resin and turpentine, which they purchased under rebel rule, and hid, in hope that at the restoration of the Union something might be saved from it to purchase the necessities of life, but which had been seized at the capture of the city, may be returned to them, that their families may be saved from utter destitution.

The New York *News*, the acknowledged "national" organ of the Democratic party, arraigned all those engaged in the trial of the assassins of President Lincoln as murderers. Of course this charge includes President Johnson, who has lately been neauturized by the public opinion of certain Democratic organs and leaders anxious for a pull at the treasury tax.

It is now a question exciting the serious attention of all Christian men throughout the world which of the two is the most disgraceful—the failure of the American slaveholders to establish slavery as the pre-eminent influence in the American Government, or that of British statesmen to destroy civil liberty as it exists in the United States.

The Democracy in Ohio are running on two tracks, with all the harmony which has formerly characterized the action of the rival factions. Two Committees are in full blast; but it makes not the least difference how many or how few they are. Gen. Cor will be elected, and the State will proclaim the policy of the President.

HORACE GREENE had his watch stolen some time since, while riding in a New York street car, on his way to the *Telegraph* office from the opera. The next morning the thief returned the watch to the editor with an apology to the effect that he would soon to rob so good a man.

It is estimated that the receipts from exports for the fiscal year ending with the 30th of the present month, will fall short of those of the previous year by about \$1,000,000. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue estimates that the receipts from that source will reach \$20,000,000.

Previous to burying the bodies of the conspirators, their names were written on slips of paper and put in vials, which were placed in the coffins. By this means the Government will be able to identify the remains at any future period.

It is said that the hatred of some of the rebels of Washington, for the execution of the assassins, has been manifested by the exhibition of mourning drapery on their residences.

The late Admiral Dupont, by special bequest, leaves his entire prize money, \$500,000, to the widows and orphans of sailors who perished during the war to suppress rebellion.

It is reported that Welchman, the witness who swore so positively against Mrs. Surratt, has said since the execution, that he did so simply to save his own neck.

## THE CONSPIRATOR'S FATE.

DAVID E. HAROLD, LEWIS PAYNE, GEO. A. ATZEROTT, and MRS. MARY E. SURRETT, having been found guilty of being accomplices in the assassination of President LINCOLN, and the finding of the Court having been approved by President JOHNSON, were hanged, on Friday, July 7th, 1865, by the authorities of the District of Columbia. The other accomplices, Dr. Mudd, Arnold and O'Laughlin, will be imprisoned for life, and Spangler will be confined in the Albany Penitentiary for six years.

Few persons, we apprehend, will be disposed to question the finding and sentence because not in accordance with impartial and rigid justice. There is, in the sentence, as to the time of the execution, something so sharp, quick, decisive, as almost to startle the public; nevertheless it is in perfect keeping with the horrid nature of the crime, and the stern requirements of justice. There was no need, nor was there any time allowed for discussion or comment. The drama, so far as the guilty actors, inciting the *extreme* penalty, are concerned, ended almost with the rising of the curtains on the closing scene. Time was not given, nor was there any prompting to raise the cry of mercy.

It was said that President Johnson would disapprove of the finding of the Military Commission, and send the conspirators before a civil tribunal. Not only did he not do so, but it is very doubtful whether he ever contemplated such a thing. On the contrary, it does not appear that he intended a single moment, but he at once handed the guilty persons over to the officers of the law, to be hanged, and to be hanged the very next day; and herein, we suspect, we catch a glimpse of the master of the man, and of his mode of dealing with traitors and rebels—all working together.

The people generally are not blood-thirsty, yet this prompt and stern action of President Johnson, in the case of the conspirator, is approved by nearly the entire loyal masses who stood by the Government in its fearful contest with treason and rebellion, and is accepted by them as a good omen of a vigorous promptness in the execution of our laws and the punishment of offenders.

Whether there is anything in the solemn circumstances which surround these stern and prompt proceedings calculated to comfort the incensed rebels, who are waiting to take in turn their places at the bar of justice, we are not prepared to say. But of one fact we are convinced, that they ought to feel that not only associates, but in all probability traitors will be punished in accordance with the severity of their crimes, and the future welfare and peace of our country demand that treason be made odious by the rigid punishment of its authors. That this will be done, there is little doubt; and the people generally approve of the decision.

## The Harrisburg Telegraph.

The *Daily Telegraph* made its appearance on last Thursday much enlarged in size, and having but recently been refitted with new material, is now one of the newest papers published in the State. The *Telegraph* has heretofore given all the latest news by telegraph, and will do so in the future; and its editor promises to spare no labor to make it an "acceptable journal"—devoted to the local interests of the people, and an exponent of "the cause of Right and Justice," and will continue to do battle against "all hypocrites and traitor enemies of our common country." It is worthy the support of all good Union men throughout the State.

**Where Do They Stand?**

There is nothing like the *record* by which to judge men and parties. Thus, while here and there so-called Democrats are claiming to support President Johnston and his policy, in the New Hampshire House of Representatives, ninety-five "Democrats" voted against the amendment to the Constitution abolishing slavery. Considering that the President said to the South Carolinians, in addressing them that that State must adopt the Constitutional amendment, our suspicions are aroused that the copperheads are not Johnston's men.

## Will Jeff Retaliate?

On all occasions during the past four years, whenever any one was hanged by the Government, or other severe punishment visited on a guilty rebel, the copperheads cry was that Jeff Davis would retaliate. "Saxony," on hearing the sentence of the conspirators, wanted to know what Jeff would likely do about it, and whether we wouldn't hear something from his "northern brothers" about retaliation for the hanging?

The coal mine of Gerard Cloes, near Liege, Belgium, was recently the scene of a dreadful accident. A sudden eruption of water took place in one of the lowest cuttings of the mine and caused the death of twenty-nine persons, men and women, who were working on the spot. The miners engaged in the upper cuttings were not affected by the inundation.

The new Constitution of Missouri has been adopted by a majority of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.

The story of the intended resignation of Secretary Seward is contradicted by the *Washington Chronicle*.

The nominal capital of National Banks is \$356,230,000—the amount of notes in circulation, \$149,088,603.

## ELECTIONS IN ENGLAND.

For some weeks past there has been no little political excitement in the two small islands which constitute "the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland." A General Election, the first in six years, will take place next month, and though no change will take place in the Upper House, all of whose members (with the exception of sixteen peers, elected in each new Parliament from the Scottish nobility) sit for life, it must be remembered that there are six hundred and fifty-eight members in the House of Commons, each of whom has to submit himself to the censure or approval of his constituency, should he desire to be re-elected.

Of course, there will be an immense quantity of public speaking—gentlemen who are silent in the House frequently become loquacious, if not eloquent, on the hustings—the usual amount of bribery and corruption, and an equal quantity of extravagance, out of the candidate's purse, in eating and drinking—it being a rule, at all these contested elections, to throw the public houses open to all—men, women, and children—who wear the candidate's colors. When the elections are over, it will probably appear that one-fourth if not nearly one-third of the new House of Commons now under Parliament for the first time. A legislature with so many new men in it is less manageable by the official whipper-in than with every member of whom he is personally well acquainted. In a little time,

however, the members, new and old, gradually settle down into their places, the official State-wagon runs on smoothly in its accustomed groove, and the ancient "whipper-in" who has handled the "ribbons" with so much skill for many years, may be expected to drive on as before, avoiding the ruts, and going over the rough and rugged places.

It is a matter of some concern to us how the ensuing election will end. We have no faith in the rumors that, at any rate, PALMERSTON will quit office before the meeting of the new Parliament. He will die in harness—like PITT, FOX, and CASSIUS—if he is allowed the opportunity. But, if in the expected parliamentary changes, the Tory party should become so strong as to obtain a majority in the Commons, PALMERSTON will have to retire. Lord DERRY will step into his place as premier, and one of the most bitter and most eloquent enemies of the Republic of the United States will become the *civil ruler* of England. This is what we are not prepared to say. But, if one fact we are convinced, that they ought to feel that not only associates, but in all probability traitors will be punished in accordance with the severity of their crimes, and the future welfare and peace of our country demand that treason be made odious by the rigid punishment of its authors.

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## Rebel Secrets.

The archives of the Rebel Provisional Congress, which were lately captured by General WILSON, in Georgia, reveal some interesting secrets in relation to the manner in which the "Confederacy" was established. The full records are reserved for the inspection of the officers of the Government at Washington; but there are some details of the revelations in these papers which have already made their appearance. Among other things it is noted that it was proposed to call the new Nation "The Republic of Washington," a proposition which was voted down, and "The Confederate States of America" substituted. The phrase in the Constitution, "invoking the aid of Almighty God," was subject to severe criticism. One member desired that there should be added, "Who is the God of the Bible and the righteous source of all power and government," but the addition was not sanctioned, as the Rebels could not consistently declare that there was a Christian Government. An attempt to have the Sabbath recognized in the Constitution also failed, as did the proposition to stop the carrying of mails on Sunday. A proposition to prohibit the admission of any State to the Confederacy which did not recognize and protect African slavery, was also voted down. The law to prohibit the importation of slaves was intended to preserve the value of the internal slave trade, which would have been injured by the introduction of negroes from abroad. But if the negroes were wrongfully brought in, it was provided that they should be sold by auction to defray charges, etc.

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## THE GETTYSBURG CELEBRATION.

Laying of Corner-Stone of the Monument.

The Fourth was celebrated at Gettysburg with great enthusiasm. One hundred guns were fired at daylight from batteries in camp on the battle field, which awoke the citizens from their slumbers and, no doubt, reminded them of the Fourth two years ago. The throng of strangers was large, and many could not get lodgings.

The procession, formed by military, civil societies, citizens, etc., headed by General Geary one of the heroes of the battle, moved from the town at 10 o'clock and reached the cemetery before 11. Gen. Meade, Howard, Mott, Sykes, L. Thomas, Doubleday, Crawford, Geary and Hobson and Col. Halpine and Gen. Curtin were on the stand.

The exercises were opened with a discourse and prayer by Rev. Dr. TAYLOR, of New York, after which, Judge GOODING, Marshal of the District of Columbia, read the following letter:

WASHINGTON, July 3, 1865.

DEAR SIR.—I had promised myself the pleasure of participating in person in the proceedings of tomorrow. That pleasure I am compelled to forego, reluctantly, by the exigencies of my position.

I should have been pleased stand-

ing on that consecrated spot, to share

with you your joy at the return of peace, to greet with you the surviving heroes of the war, who come back with light hearts, though heavy laden with honor, and with you to drop grateful tears to the memory of those that will never return. Unable to do so in person, I can only send you my greetings, and assure you of my sympathies with you now.

Of all the anniversaries of the Declara-

tion of Independence, none has been more

important and significant than that upon

which you associate. Four years of strug-

gle for our nation—life has been wasted

with success, and treason swept from the land, our soldiers and sailors ren-

ews—our ships—our colonies—our flag

floats in every breeze, and the only barrier

to our national progress—human slavery—is at an end. Let us trust that each return

Fourth of July shall find our nation stronger in numbers, stronger in wealth,

stronger in the harmony of the citizen, stronger in its devotion to nationality and freedom.

As you go to-morrow I trust you will not forget the thousands of whites

as well as blacks whom the war has emas-

culated, who will hail this Fourth of July with a delight which no previous anniversary of the Declaration of Independence ever gave them.

One of the priests attended on Mrs. Sur-

ratt and repeated a short prayer to which

Payne, who was seated next to her, attem-

tively listened. The minister who had been

administering to Payne expressed, in the

name of the latter, his sincere thanks, to

Gen. Harraught and the officers and soldiers

who had charge of him, for their personal

kindness. They had not uttered an unkind

word nor given an unpleasant look or gesture,

but seemed to compassionate with him in

his misfortunes.

The minister then uttered a brief prayer,

asking for Payne's forgiveness of all his

sins, and a passage out of this world into

the joys of heaven.

The minister who attended Harold also

returned thanks for the kind treatment of

the prisoners, and offered a prayer that God

would receive his soul. Harold was affect-

ed to tears.

The minister who attended Atzerott also

returned thanks for him to General Hart-

raught and other officers for kind attentions,

and then invoked the mercy of God upon

the prisoners.

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returned thanks for him to General Hart-

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As soon as the noose was placed around

each neck—Mrs. Surratt being the last one

adjusted—the