

The Franklin Repository.

BY MCCLURE & STONER.

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Franklin Repository.

ORGANIZATION OF CONGRESS.

Mr. Young, one of the Editors of the Press, writing from Washington, gives the following graphic description of the organization of Congress:

Schuyler Colfax is very calm and very busy, and finds himself the cynosure of many eyes, as he stands near his seat, chatting and smiling to a group of men around him. Mr. Colfax is one of those indescribable people that everybody seems to like, with a bright eye, a clear, expressive face, and a genial quick manner that makes all around him perfectly at home. I should call Mr. Colfax a natty little man, full of energy and good nature, and with that positive way that we so often see in newspaper men—a way of saying yes and no, and giving an opinion in the shortest space of time. Mr. Colfax is a newspaper man, and I fancy there is general good feeling among that singular race, who are, as Mr. Dickens would say, "writing with ravenousness" in the gallery above the Speaker's chair, for one of their tribe is now a popular man, and about to receive the reward of his well-earned popularity.

It is very near 12 o'clock; the galleries are filled; the doors are crammed; the floor is covered with moving, talking men; the clerks are frantically hurrying hither and thither, carrying small bundles well tied in large red tape; pages are bounding over chairs and tables, answering calls in a manner that suggests many accidents and much mortality among them; the new members are making each other's acquaintances, and the old members are speaking about the weather and the war, and asking each other how they have been since they last assembled. Thaddeus Stevens is in his seat, with his stern, cold-cut, intellectual face looking bright and fresh, and more like the youngest member of the House which he is not, than one of the oldest members which he is. Near him is a hard, rugged face, rough and scowling with meaning eyes under heavy brows, the face of one of the best-budded men in the country—Robert G. Schenck, lately major general commanding in Maryland, and the terror of every traitor in that redeemed State. Behind him is one of its redemptors in the person of Henry W. Winter Davis, one of the first that treason-shackled Maryland overthrew, and one of the first that enfranchised Maryland exulted. Garfield quietly moves around in his presence, recalling all the glories of the many Western campaigns, which have given glory to our arms. He is a young man, and beside him are two other young men, truant sons of Pennsylvania—Blaine, of Maine, and Donnelly, of Minnesota. They ran away from the good old State, in early years—one to the East, the other to the West—and now meet again on the floor of Congress. Our own members are in a group—Judge Kelley, one of the ablest debaters in the House, and a leading Representative; Mr. O'Neill, and Mr. Myers, and Mr. Thayer, who are here for the first time; and Mr. Randall, whose handsome face is seen between that of John L. Dawson and Fernando Wood. Mr. Washburne is here as one of the oldest members, although not an old man; while Mr. Cox, of Ohio, who is to receive the Democratic nomination for Speaker, is talking to Mr. Pendleton and Mr. Voorhees as pleasantly as though he expected to be elected. Altogether, it is a strange House. There are few old men, and few old members. It has a practical business look about it, as though it were going to be an industrious House—a House of regular habits—that met at proper hours and dined at proper hours, and as soon as it fixed the affairs of the nation, would hurry home and fix its own affairs—its harvests and invoices, and newspapers and briefs, and spinning-wheels and ploughs.

The clock strikes twelve, and Mr. Etheridge, who seduces to be an inoffensive man, and not a very bad fellow, notwithstanding the way we have been talking about him, raps on the table twice or thrice, and proceeds formally to summon the House to order and call the roll. The members answer to their names slowly, and the vast multitude listens as quietly as though each man expected his own name called, and was anxious to answer. Massachusetts is passed, and Connecticut, and there is a buzz over the galleries, for the bar-rooms and the Avenue had set it down that these were among the States that the conscience of Mr. Etheridge would not permit to be represented. It was noticed that Maryland was not called, nor West Virginia, nor some of the members from Missouri. This had been set down among other things, and straightway a member rises and calls for the reading of the credentials of the members from Maryland—and after they are read moves to place their names upon the list. Objection is raised, and a motion is made to lay the motion on the table. There is a delay occasioned by the lingering process of calling the roll and names, and the impatient gallery becomes more and more impatient. In time, however, it is announced that upon the motion to lay upon the table the names are in a majority. This settles the question. The galleries cheer lustily, for the contest is at an end. The majority that admitted Maryland is sufficient to elect the Speaker, and the election of a Speaker is merely a matter of form. Nearly two hours are consumed by the majority in placing upon the roll many members that the conscience of Mr. Etheridge could not receive, and finally it is ordered that the House proceed to ballot for Speaker. Mr. Washburne nominated Mr. Colfax, and the galleries cheer again. Other members are nominated, the honors being between Mr. Cox, of Ohio, and Mr. Dawson, of Pennsylvania. But it is evident that the contest is at an end. On one side there is a firm, unbroken column supporting Schuyler Colfax. On the other side the members are dividing off into groups and giving each other complimentary votes. Mr. Benjamin Wood goes alone, and shows that John D. Stiles, of Allentown, is the man he delights to honor.

Finally, the long roll is ended, and the tellers made their report. And the Clerk announces that, according to the report of the said tellers, the Hon. Schuyler Colfax, Representative from Indiana, was duly elected Speaker of the Thirty-eighth Congress. Mr. Cox and Mr. Dawson are appointed to conduct him to the chair, and the natty little newspaper man, amid loud and long-continued cheering, ascends the steps and makes a natty little speech—brief, business like, positive, with much modesty, great

sense, and no allusion to the star-spangled banner. So the anxious hour is passed—the mace is formally placed upon the table, and the House is organized.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

In sublime contrast with the persistent misrepresentations, and the petty quibbles of the Age, the Spirit and kindred Democratic journals in Pennsylvania, is the bold, patriotic language of the Boston Post, the leading Democratic organ of New England, on the conscription bill. It says:

"Where a conscription is so general and extensive as this, there is no reproach in being a conscript.—There is a positive reproach in seeing a hale, hearty, young man, willing to confess that he has not spirit enough to serve under the national banner. It is a burning shame to hear such a one boast that he cannot be made to go. In an old man broken in health and disposition it is excusable to want courage; but the martial spirit becomes the young and middle-aged. It is wise in all who have been lawfully drafted from others may now be of great service. Employers, instead of encouraging their subordinates to seek out loopholes of release, should encourage them to their military duty, and see that their places are kept open for them. An indiscreet loan of \$300 to pay for exemption, to a young man who is only half inclined to stay at home, may be the worst service a brother, parent, or friend can do the drafted man. A smile at one who has 'hit' is unkind and unmanly. Never was there an army around whose banners clustered so much glory as those of the Republic, now in the last days of the rebellion. The highest places of the army are open to the humblest private if only merit points them out for advancement. To discourage enlistments, and to oppose the enrollment were crimes, but it is now infinitely more criminal to discourage from service those who have been drafted."

ADDRESS OF SPEAKER COLFAX.

After being conducted to the chair by Messrs. Dawson and Cox, and before taking the oath, Mr. Speaker Colfax, addressed the House as follows:

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives: To-day will be remarked in American history as the opening of Congress destined to face and settle the most important questions of the century, and during whose existence the rebellion which has passed into culmination will, beyond all question—thanks to our army and navy and administration—die a deserved death! Not only will your constituents watch with strictest scrutiny your deliberations here, but the friends of liberty in the most distant lands will be interested spectators of your acts in this greater than Roman forum. I invoke you to approach these grave questions with the calm thoughtfulness of statesmen, freeing your discussions from that acerbity which mars instead of advancing legislation, and with unshaken reliance on that divine power which gave victory to those who formed this Union and can give even greater victory to those who are seeking to save it from destruction from the hands of the paricide and traitor. I invoke you also to remember that sacred truth which all history verifies, that "they who rule not in righteousness shall perish from the earth." Thanking you with a grateful heart for this distinguished mark of your confidence and regard, and appealing to all for that support and forbearance, by the aid of which alone I can hope to succeed, I am now ready to take the oath of office, and enter upon the duties you have assigned me.

THE SOUTHERN COAST.

Winter in North Carolina—Rain and Wind—Visit of Gen. Butler—His Entourage—Reception—Rejoice—Festivities at his Advent—Thanksgiving Day.

Correspondence of The Franklin Repository.

NEWBERN, N. C., Nov. 23, 1863.

"To-day the meaning of the bitter wind,
Rhymes with the plashing of the chilly rain."
And to-day the weather is in every respect similar to that of every other day of the past week. Could not the Sanitary Commission or some other benevolent institution send, among the many good things which are received at their hands, a few weeks of clear, cold Northern weather, just enough to dispel the deadly miasma which fills the air, and which daily hurries many contrabands to the place "where good darkies go?"

In a former letter, I spoke of the small-pox having made its appearance here. Since that time the disease has been spreading rapidly among the negroes, and at present there are about seventeen hundred cases in the town and vicinity. The filthy habits of the negroes is doubtless one of the principal causes of this great increase in the number of cases, as well as that so many deaths occur. Happily, white soldiers and citizens are almost entirely exempt from it. I have heard of but few cases among these classes of the population. Owing to the unfavorable weather "the shakes" still prevail to a considerable extent. Bitter experience (quinine and "bone-set") has taught us to pray earnestly for the day of our deliverance from this pest of the swamp country.

The few frosts we have had, have divested Newbern of his chief attraction. Its groves of magnificent shade trees, which in summer form complete arches through all the streets, and render the place beautiful and attractive, are now leafless, the few evergreen ferns shooting out from the mossy trunks being the only remaining evidences of life. The cottages of the poorer classes, which a few months ago were neat and picturesque in their covering of vines and shrubbery, now look bare and dilapidated. Winter is fast approaching, but instead of its glorious accompaniments, skating, sleighing, parties, etc., which you at the North enjoy, we will have nothing but cold North-east rains and oceans of mud.

I have little to record in the way of news.

The event of the month was the visit of Major General Benjamin F. Butler, the new Commander of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina. The General with his wife, daughter, and staff left Fortress Monroe in the steamer S. R. Spaulding, on the 19th inst., arriving at Morehead city on the 20th. After inspecting Fort Mason and the other harbor defences, and visiting the village of Beaufort, the party took a special train for this city, stopping at and inspecting the several military posts on the line of the railroad. An immense crowd was gathered at the depot here, and the reception of the distinguished visitor was enthusiastic and gratifying. Accompanied by Major General Peck and staff, Brigadier General Palmer and staff and a squadron of the 12th N. Y. Cavalry, the whole forming a brilliant cavalcade, the Commanding General proceeded to inspect the defences of Newbern and the different outposts. After dining at General Peck's, the party embarked on the steamer Collyer and visited Washington, Plymouth and Roanoke Island, and thence by way of Hatteras Inlet, (in the capture of which, in 1861, Gen. Butler's forces played a prominent part,) returned to Fortress Monroe.

As our friend Stiner of the Herald was with the visitors, it would be worse than useless for me at this late day to enter upon the details of the trip. Except by the resident rebels, who hate him with a bitter hatred, Gen. Butler was at every point warmly welcomed. His coming betokens a change in the administration of affairs in this Department, and the native citizens, who of late have been doing pretty much as they pleased, await the change with fear and trembling. With Baltimore and New Orleans as an example, the secessionists here may well dread the man, who in support of the Constitution and the laws of the Union, has never hesitated to "take the responsibility." The malcontents heaped upon him by the press and people of the rebel states, are far more honorable to him than the warmest praises of his friends. His headquarters are at Fortress Monroe. Though he may not be the fortunate man who is to capture Richmond, he is at least conveniently located to take charge of and run the machine when it comes into our possession.

The 3d North Carolina loyal regiment is being rapidly recruited by Capt. Foster, a North Carolina man, and one who has already performed good service in the cause of the Union. His thorough knowledge of the country and his acquaintance with most of the citizens in this part of the state, peculiarly fit him for the work in which he is now engaged, and will prove invaluable to him when he comes into the command of the 3d. The regiment is being formed for service in the State. With Gen. Butler in command they will probably have enough to do.

Our pickets at Newport Barracks were driven in to-day by a reconnoitering cavalry force of the enemy. Maj. Jarvis, of the 9th Vt. Regt., was killed while gallantly leading his men in repulsing the rebels.

Thanksgiving day was generally observed as a holiday by the Army, Navy and citizens. At the Fair Grounds, the employees of the Quarter-Master's Department engaged in foot-races, sack races, climbing greased poles, etc., to the great amusement of numerous spectators. The performances closed with a grand ball and supper.

The scarcity of troops in this Department may invite an attack in force by the cavalry. Let them come. Our magazines are well filled, the artillery is in perfect practice, the commissariat well supplied and we shall delight in welcoming them with bloody hands, etc. Yours, J.

FINANCIAL.

The Washington County Bank, (Md.) has declared a dividend of 3 1/2 per cent, clear of all tax.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company announces a semi annual dividend of five per cent, free of government tax.

The First National Bank of Carlisle has been designated by the Secretary of the Treasury as a depository of the Government.

The Reading railroad company have declared a dividend of seven per cent, payable in common stock, on and after December 31, and a dividend of three and a half per cent, payable in cash or common stock, has been declared on the preferred stock.

We learn that measures are in train for the establishment of a National bank in Gettysburg, under the Act of Congress. The Farmers' and Mechanics' Savings Institution is to be the base of operation, we understand, and will be merged in the Bank. The capital, we hear, is to be \$50,000.

The Philadelphia Banks have declared their semi-annual dividends, viz:

Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank	5 per cent
Southwark Bank	5 "
Traders' Bank	5 "
Manufacturers' and Mechanics' Bank	5 "
Bank of Commerce	5 "
Bank of Northern Liberties	5 "
Bank of Penn Township	5 "
Corn Exchange Bank	5 "
Bank of Commerce	5 "
Commercial Bank	5 "
Girard Bank	5 "
Union Bank	5 "
Consolidation Bank	5 "
Mechanics' Bank	5 "
Western Bank	5 "
City Bank	5 "
Commonwealth Bank	5 "

The average of these dividends is considerably greater than any known for a number of years.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

The 38th Congress assembled on the 7th of December. We subjoin a list of the leading officers and members, Administration members in Roman—Opposition italics: SENATE.

HANNIBAL HAMLIN, (Mc.) Vice President.	Term Expires.
John W. Foster, (Pa.) Secretary.	
Term Expires.	
CONNETICUT.	MISSOURI.
Lafayette S. Foster, 1867	Benj. Gratz Brown, 1869
James Dixon, 1869	John B. Henderson, 1869
CALIFORNIA.	NEW HAMPSHIRE.
Jas. A. McDougal, 1867	John P. Hale, 1865
John Conness, 1869	Daniel Clark, 1867
NEW YORK.	
DELAWARE.	NEW JERSEY.
William C. Calverly, 1865	Ira Harris, 1869
James Bayard, 1869	Edwin D. Morgan, 1869
INDIANA.	
Henry S. Lamb, 1867	John C. Ten Eyck, 1865
Thos. A. Hendricks, 1869	William H. Rouse, 1869
ILLINOIS.	
Wm. A. Richardson, 1865	Benjamin F. Wade, 1869
Lyman Trumbull, 1867	John Sherman, 1867
IOWA.	
James W. Grimes, 1865	Benj. F. Harding, 1865
James Harlan, 1867	Jas. W. Nesmith, 1865
KENTUCKY.	
Lazarus W. Powell, 1865	Edgar Cowan, 1867
Garret Davis, 1867	Chas. R. Buckalew, 1869
KANSAS.	
Samuel C. Pomeroy, 1865	Henry B. Anthony, 1865
John A. Sargent, 1867	William Sprague, 1869
MARYLAND.	
Thomas H. Hicks, 1867	Jacob Collamer, 1867
Reverdy Johnson, 1869	Solomon S. Foster, 1869
MASSACHUSETTS.	
Wm. P. Fessenden, 1865	John S. Corlies, 1865
Lot M. Morrill, 1869	Lucretia J. Bowden, 1869
MAINE.	
Henry Wilson, 1865	Timothy O. Howe, 1869
Charles Sumner, 1869	James R. Doolittle, 1869
MICHIGAN.	
John M. Howard, 1865	WEST VIRGINIA.
James M. Ashley, 1869	Wm. M. G. Hunter, 1865
MINNESOTA.	
M. S. Wilkinson, 1867	P. G. Van Winkle, 1869
Alexander Ramsey, 1869	

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SCHUYLER COLFAX, (Ind.) Speaker.

Edward M. Phillips, (Penn.) Clerk.

MAINE.	
1. Lorenza D. Seavey.	11. Nathl. B. Smithers.
2. Sidney Perham.	12. George H. Pendleton.
3. James O. Blaine.	13. Albert G. Bland.
4. John A. Dix.	14. Robert C. Schenck.
5. Frederick H. Pike.	15. J. F. McKim.
NEW HAMPSHIRE.	
1. James M. Ashley.	16. Frank C. Leavelle.
2. Edward H. Rollins.	17. Chas. W. White.
3. James W. Patterson.	18. Samuel S. Cox.
NEW JERSEY.	
1. Fred. C. Robtbridge.	19. William Johnston.
2. Justin S. Morrill.	20. George W. Johnson.
3. Portus Baxter.	21. James M. Ashley.
MASSACHUSETTS.	
1. Thos. A. Eliot.	22. Wells A. Hutchins.
2. Onkes Ames.	23. William H. Rouse.
3. Alexander H. Rice.	24. George Bliss.
4. Charles F. Smith.	25. James F. Morris.
5. John B. Alley.	26. Joseph W. White.
6. Daniel W. Gooch.	27. Ephraim R. Eckley.
7. George S. Boutwell.	28. Rufus S. Spaulding.
8. David C. Perkins.	29. James A. Garfield.
9. Wm. B. Washburne.	30. Lucien Anderson.
10. Henry L. Dawes.	31. George H. Yemanan.
RHODE ISLAND.	
1. Thos. A. Jenks.	32. Henry Grider.
2. Nathan E. Dixon.	33. Aaron Durbin.
CONNECTICUT.	
1. Henry C. DeWitt.	34. Green Clay Smith.
2. Augustus B. Brantagee.	35. Peter A. B. Wideman.
3. John H. Hubbard.	36. William H. Randall.
INDIANA.	
1. James A. Crittenden.	37. Wm. H. Wadsworth.
2. Henry W. Harrison.	38. John A. Crittenden.
3. William S. Holman.	39. Henry W. Johnson.
4. John P. Hale.	40. James A. Allen.
5. Ebenezer Dumont.	41. Isaac N. Arnold.
6. Daniel W. Voorhees.	42. John P. Farnsworth.
7. Charles S. Smith.	43. Elhu B. Washburne.
8. Schuyler Colfax.	44. Chas. M. Harris.
9. Joseph K. Edgerton.	45. Owen Lovjoy.
10. James F. McDowell.	46. Jesse O. Norton.
IOWA.	
1. James A. Crittenden.	47. John H. Eilen.
2. Henry W. Johnson.	48. John T. Stuart.
3. John W. Longyear.	49. Lewis W. Ross.
4. Francis W. Rogge.	50. Anthony L. Knapp.
5. Augustus C. Dodge.	51. James C. Robinson.
6. John F. Driggs.	52. William G. Harding.
KENTUCKY.	
1. Francis P. Blair.	53. William J. Allen.
2. Henry T. Blow.	54. James C. Allen.
3. John G. Scott.	55. James A. Crittenden.
4. John C. Breckinridge.	56. James A. Crittenden.
5. S. H. Boyd.	57. James A. Crittenden.
6. Austin A. King.	58. James A. Crittenden.
7. Benjamin W. Swan.	59. James A. Crittenden.
8. William A. Hall.	60. James A. Crittenden.
9. James S. Rollins.	61. James A. Crittenden.
MISSOURI.	
1. Fernando C. Bozman.	62. Charles Upson.
2. Charles Upson.	63. John W. Longyear.
3. John W. Longyear.	64. Francis W. Rogge.
4. Francis W. Rogge.	65. Augustus C. Dodge.
5. Augustus C. Dodge.	66. John F. Driggs.
6. John F. Driggs.	67. John F. Driggs.
NEW YORK.	
1. James A. Crittenden.	68. John F. Driggs.
2. Charles Upson.	69. John F. Driggs.
3. John W. Longyear.	70. John F. Driggs.
4. Francis W. Rogge.	71. John F. Driggs.
5. Augustus C. Dodge.	72. John F. Driggs.
6. John F. Driggs.	73. John F. Driggs.
PENNSYLVANIA.	
1. Samuel J. Randall.	74. John F. Driggs.
2. Charles O. Harris.	75. John F. Driggs.
3. Charles O. Harris.	76. John F. Driggs.
4. James M. Myers.	77. John F. Driggs.
5. William D. Kelly.	78. John F. Driggs.
6. Russell Thayer.	79. John F. Driggs.
7. John M. Broomall.	80. John F. Driggs.
8. Sydney H. A. Amonca.	81. John F. Driggs.
9. Thaddeus Stevens.	82. John F. Driggs.
10. John B. Cramer.	83. John F. Driggs.
11. Philip Johnson.	84. John F. Driggs.
12. Charles Deminon.	85. John F. Driggs.
13. Thos. A. Hendricks.	86. John F. Driggs.
14. Wm. H. Miller.	87. John F. Driggs.
15. Joseph Bailey.	88. John F. Driggs.
16. A. H. Coffey.	89. John F. Driggs.
17. Charles F. Allison.	90. John F. Driggs.
18. James T. Hale.	91. John F. Driggs.
19. Glenn W. Schofield.	92. John F. Driggs.
20. Amos Myers.	93. John F. Driggs.
21. John B. Cramer.	94. John F. Driggs.
22. James K. Morehead.	95. John F. Driggs.
23. Thomas Williams.	96. John F. Driggs.
24. Jesse Laverne.	97. John F. Driggs.
NEW MEXICO.	
1. J. J. A. Greenwell.	98. John F. Driggs.
2. Edwin H. Webster.	99. John F. Driggs.
3. H. White.	100. John F. Driggs.
NEW YORK.	
1. J. J. A. Greenwell.	101. John F. Driggs.
2. Edwin H. Webster.	102. John F. Driggs.
3. H. White.	103. John F. Driggs.
NEW YORK.	
1. J. J. A. Greenwell.	104. John F. Driggs.
2. Edwin H. Webster.	105. John F. Driggs.
3. H. White.	106. John F. Driggs.

DELEGATES.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL UNION MEN.	39
Opposition of Copperheads.	11
Union majority.	23
UNCONSTITUTIONAL UNION MEN.	105
Opposition of Doubtful.	81
Union majority, about.	24.

Gov. Bramlette, the lately elected Governor of Kentucky, in his message to the Legislature urges the reorganization of the militia for home defence against guerrillas. He pledges the entire services of the State to the defence of the Government. In relation to the question of slavery, the Governor concludes that it is not essential to the life of the State or nation, but that Union is.

The following are the ballots given in the Union Congressional caucus for Clerk:

First.	Second.	Third.	Fourth.	Fifth.
Fessenden	32	13	45	44
Bullington	12	10	5	4
Green Adams	14	10	5	4
City Bank	12	10	5	4
McPherson	32	13	45	44

The Bedford Inquirer raises the names of Abraham Lincoln for President, and Henry Winter Davis for Vice President, in 1864.

BRIEF WAR ITEMS.

The small pox has broken out among the Union prisoners at Danville, Va.

Illinois has over seventy-five regiments under the immediate command of Gen. Grant.

The Ladies Fair at Indianapolis, Ind., recently held, realized twelve thousand dollars for the benefit of soldiers' families.

The Charleston (S. C.) Courier says that the pay of a rebel soldier for a month will not suffice to purchase a pair of gloves.

Nearly two hundred river guerrillas have recently been captured near Vicksburg. Some of them wear the uniform of Rebel officers.

The Rebel Gen. Polk has been ordered to command the Southern Mississippi Department, with his headquarters at Braxton, fifteen miles east of Jackson.

A special despatch from Chattanooga, dated the 7th inst., says:—Hardee is slowly falling back from Dalton with Bragg's whipped army. The mountains of East Tennessee are filled with Rebel desertors and stragglers.

Maj. Gen. French, lately commanding the Third Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, the New York Times says, has been relieved of his command and ordered under arrest for alleged misconduct in the late movement of the army.

The cavalry of the Army of the Potomac are kept busy looking after Moseby's guerrillas. Stewart's Rebel cavalry frequently make raids on the north side of the Rapidan, occasionally picking up some of the stragglers of the Union army.

Gen. Butler has issued a characteristic order for the regulation of the colored people in his department. He is of the opinion that as a negro fills the same space in the ranks as a white man, and if shot fills as large a grave, he should receive the same pay as the white soldier does.

The steamer Fulton brings the sad intelligence that the monitor Weehawken, suddenly sunk at her anchorage off Morris Island, during a gale on the 6th inst. Out of her crew thirty were lost, including four assistant engineers. Her captain was on board the flag-ship when the accident occurred. All the other officers except the above named were saved. No damage received by any of the other iron-clads.

Dr. Chas. P. Wright, of Ohio, who was captured at Chickamauga on the 20th of Sept., has just arrived from Libby Prison by a flag of truce. The doctor states that the articles of clothing, provisions, &c., sent to the Union prisoners at Richmond by their Northern friends and associations, have been received by them, except in a few cases. The doctor was requested by our officers now in Libby Prison to convey to their friends at home an injunction as to the necessity of confining themselves to sending forward staple articles instead of luxuries, as the Confederate modes of transportation are now taxed to their utmost extremity.

The Richmond Whig, of Saturday last, says, after lamenting the "deep water" into which the confederacy is plunging: "We have a department of State that has not been able in nearly three years to establish relations with any other State; a treasury department that has failed to keep its finances from running to ruin; a war department in the hands of a chief whose whole studies and course of life have been purely and peculiarly civic; a navy department without a navy; a post office department with a very shackling system of mails; a department of justice vacant."

The rebels have perpetrated another bold theft. The steamer Chesapeake, a vessel of about 800 tons burthen, plying between New York and Portland, left the former port on Saturday week. When off Cape Cod the passengers, sixteen secessionists in disguise, shot the engineers, and placing the captain and crew in irons, seized the ship as a prize to the Confederate States. The captain and crew were subsequently sent ashore in a boat, and when last seen the Chesapeake was taking coal from a vessel she had captured. She is not a fast ship, and will undoubtedly soon be retaken.

The loyal Governor of West Virginia, in his message, says: "Free the slaves, and when the State is fully restored there will be no need of contention. The people will at once adapt themselves to the new state of affairs. Population and capital, invited by our mild climate and vast agricultural, mineral, and manufacturing resources, and commercial facilities, will immediately flow into the State from the North. The State will emerge from the rebellion regenerated, and enter into a noble and successful competition with her sister States in all that pertains to the true question of a free commonwealth."

PERSONAL.

Gen. Meagher is not a prisoner. He is now at Fairfax Court House, the guest of Col. Corcoran.

Joseph Moore, ex-member of the Pennsylvania Legislature, has been appointed a paymaster in the army.

Col. Tippen, of the 68th Pa. Vols., and other officers, have been restored to their commands in the army.

Gen. Doubleday has been appointed a member of a court-martial, to try civilians who are accused of certain crimes.

Gen. W. D. Whipple has succeeded Maj. Gen. Reynolds as Grant's Chief of Staff. Gen. Reynolds takes command of the troops.

Maj. Frank Jordan, Paymaster, and now stationed in St. Louis, was in Chambersburg on Saturday last