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BY MCCLURE & STONER.

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HARRISBURG.

Dr. St. Clair Qualified as Senator—Election of Clerk and other Officers—Democrats Still Arresting Legislation—The Bill for Military Damages.

Correspondence of the Franklin Repository.

HARRISBURG, March 7, 1864.

The Senate session of last Monday night was one of unusual interest, and a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen attested the anxiety that prevailed to see the Senate unlocked. Before the hour of meeting, a gentleman of medium height, strongly built, with brown hair, sandy whiskers, an intelligent and pleasant face and keen eye, modestly walked into the Senate, and was pointed to the vacant seat in the center of the front row on the left of the Speaker. The eyes of the crowd were all turned in that direction, and he was the center of attraction. The Union Senators were in turn presented to him, and shook him by the hand with a warmth that indicated a cordial welcome, and some of the Democratic Senators were also introduced, but they did not manifest any unusual delight at the advent of the stranger. He came as the "man of destiny" to unlock the Senate, in obedience to the overwhelming vote of the people of Indiana and Armstrong counties, who had become arbiters between the Unionists and the Revolutionists of the State. I need not say that the man of whom I speak is Dr. THOS. ST. CLAIR, the new Union Senator from Indiana.

At the appointed hour for the meeting, Speaker Penny took the chair and called the Senate to order. The Secretary of the Commonwealth was on hand and presented the returns of the special election, and after they had been read, Dr. St. Clair was called upon by the Speaker to present himself to be sworn. He did so, and was qualified without question on the Democratic side; although if, as they allege, Penny is not Speaker, then was his writ illegal; the election was a farce; the return a fraud, and Dr. St. Clair a usurper in taking his seat; but the revolutionists all sat silent during the proceedings. Soon after, Senator Johnston asked leave to read a bill in place providing for taking the vote of the soldiers, when Clymer objected, and declared the Senate still an unorganized body; but a vote was had on the question, and for the first time since the opening of the session there were 17 votes on the right side to 16 on the wrong side. A motion followed to proceed to the election of a Clerk, which the disorganizers moved to amend by electing Speaker; but the Union men decided against the election of Speaker, inasmuch as they have one who is entirely satisfactory; and Hon. Geo. W. Hanerly was elected Clerk; G. S. Berry Assistant; O. N. Worden, J. E. Butterfield and H. W. Zimmerman Trussing Clerks; and John Z. Martin Sergeant-at-Arms, with all the other subordinate officers—all by strict party votes. Mr. Lowrey offered a resolution that the clergy of Harrisburg open the sessions with prayers. This broke the phalanx of the revolutionists. Hopkins' piety yielded to party policy and he voted against it with 13 others; but Senator Stuzke, of Luzerne, preferred piety to politics, and voted with the Union men for the resolution.

On Wednesday morning the Senate met and the Union men hoped to proceed to business; but the Democrats interposed every possible objection to legislation. They would make every possible dilatory motion—such as to postpone for the present—so postpone indefinitely—to adjourn &c. and call the yeas and nays on every motion. Clymer, usually amiable and philosophical, seemed ruffled in temper and was fearfully savage on his tubercles. He started the ball by calling the yeas and nays, and kept it up pretty much all the time. When he tired of it, the lesser lights would fall in, and thus all legislation was practically arrested. Finally Lowrey's patience gave out. He is an earnest man, with an immense coat of sandy hair—such as the Irishman says they call "rid" in his country, and it stands pretty much perpendicular all over his head. With so many points of attraction, it is natural that he should be electrified frequently, and he deals some terrible blows in his blunt way when he gets his wrath up. As I have said his amiability gave out, and he called the previous question on the revolutionists, and thus cut off all debate, all dilatory motions and brought the Senate to a direct vote on the main question. This flustered the Democrats considerably, as the previous question had not been called and sustained in the Senate during the last six years. Another bill came up, and the same game was played. Clymer moved to amend, and Lambertson moved to amend the amendment, when both voted against their own amendments. Clymer then so far forgot himself as to move to postpone the bill to a given day when it should be the special order, thus by his own motion distinctly recognizing the Senate as competent to legislate. How a disorganized Senator in a disorganized Senate could make such a motion puzzled even Lambertson; but consistency, self respect and every duty of a sworn legislator seem to be forgotten in the frenzy that has seized the Democrats. If they had been consistent from the first in their folly, they could at least say that they professed their belief in their doctrine; but every day they recognize the organization of the Senate in some way or other.

How long this condition of things will last, is a question of moment. If the Democrats adhere to their position, they cannot present a writer, read a bill in place, vote for any measure whatever, or allow any legislation that they can arrest. Yet they call it the Senate, address "Mr. Speaker" regularly and plead the rights rigidly. If the Senate is not regularly organized, then it is a mere town meeting, or a moderately respectable debating society, and "any other man" has just as much right to speak and vote there as Mr. Clymer. I will have a

personal consultation with Lambertson on the constitutional question involved as soon as I can find time, and if he convinces me from his vast store of constitutional law that Mr. Penny is a disorganizer and a usurper, I shall insist upon the chief editor of the Repository addressing the Senate town meeting the next time he comes down. It would doubtless be most agreeable to the revolutionists to hear him; and the next time that Finney comes along with a small assortment of gait on hand, it would be delightful to hear his plausible and classical sentences poured forth from his old chair. If the razor-drops man favors us with a visit, he too shall entertain us, and I see no reason why Sanford might not come in with his whole troupe some session and vary the performance.

A cruel test was applied to the disorganizers on Thursday. The bill instructing Congress to increase the pay of volunteers was called up, and there was a terrible fluttering on the Democratic side. They were not vote for it, for that would confess their error—they dare not vote against it, for that would expose their traitorous sympathies, so they with one accord began to make excuses. Clymer had pulled off and was fortunately enabled to dodge. Hopkins attempted to explain, but before he had got anything intelligible uttered, he was pronounced out of order and had to set down. Lambertson explained by saying in substance that he was in favor of increasing the pay of soldiers and he would therefore vote against the bill. Wallace also explained. All seemed to feel that some excuse was necessary for their conduct. So they go, entangling themselves deeper daily, until they will have such a record that they would welcome forgetfulness when they leave the Senate.

The bill for the adjudication and payment of military damages was discussed again on Thursday night; but the old political fight completely enveloped the bill. Watson spoke sensibly on the political question and indicated friendship for the measure. He was followed by Myers, of Bedford, who simply proved himself a most violent copperhead. The bill was then referred to the committee on Federal Relations, where it is hoped it will be severed from the political issues which complicate it, and come forth again under more favorable auspices. I think it will eventually pass. H. H. H.

WASHINGTON.

Officers for Colored Regiments—Extension of the Draft—Admiral Dahlgren—The Gen. Grant—The Army of the Potomac—Veterans—The Army of the Potomac.

Correspondence of The Franklin Repository.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 4, 1864.

Congress has done very little this week but carry on discussions and appoint committees of conference on the Whiskey tax. The speculators, who are here by the hundreds, are growing rather desperate over the prospect that Congress will pass a bill to tax to some extent the stock on hand and thus replenish the Treasury some five millions of dollars. Senator Sherman states that the amount in store was estimated at forty millions of gallons. Nearly all the Democrats vote against a tax. This, considering the quantity they will need during the coming campaign, is not to be wondered at, but how a few able Senators and members of the Republican stamp have been persuaded to vote against filling up the Treasury with this five millions of dollars, is a mystery.

The Board of Examiners have, during the past week, examined seventy-five applicants, of which forty-five have been recommended for commission, as follows: One Colonel, two Lieutenant Colonels, ten Captains, eleven First Lieutenants and twenty-one Second Lieutenants. The whole number examined this far has been five hundred and ninety-two. The Board are very strict, allowing no one to pass unless thoroughly acquainted with military tactics, and well versed in mathematics, grammar, geography, history &c. The negro troops will therefore have good officers.

The Senate has passed the bill extending the time for payment of bounties until the 1st of April. It was done at the request of the Secretary of War, for the following very satisfactory reasons, which the Secretary communicated to the Senate:

First. That, in my opinion, the requisite troops can be raised more expeditiously by continuing the payment of bounties to the 1st of April than by any other means.

Second. That, at present, great exertions are being made in the several States to raise their quotas by volunteers, so as to avoid a draft. The best method of procuring such troops is by continuing the payment of bounties to the 1st of April.

Third. That, in my opinion, the joint resolution of the House of Representatives is wise and judicious, and that its speedy passage by the Senate would greatly promote the public welfare, and strengthen the military force more quickly and effectually than can be accomplished by any other means.

Non-obedient servant, EDWIN M. STANTON, To Hon. Henry Wilson.

Provost Marshal General Fry has suspended the rules requiring the draft to take place on the 10th inst. The day on which it is to take place will be announced in time to make all necessary preparation. Of course it will not be before the 1st of April.

On last Wednesday evening the Harvest Moon arrived at the Navy Yard, direct from Charleston, having on board Admiral Dahlgren and staff, relieved from duty in the South Atlantic Squadron. Commander Rowan was left in command of the fleet. It is believed that Admiral Farragut has been ordered to the command of the iron-clads off Charleston. When the Harvest Moon left everything was quiet.

The Evening Republican of Thursday says: "It may be of interest to some of our readers to learn that Mrs. Stuart, the wife of the famous Gen.

J. E. B. Stuart, is living quietly in Georgetown, where she enjoys quietly the society of her friends for the last year."

From the information daily received by the Commissioner of the General Land Office an immense emigration is wending its way to Idaho. As many as a thousand persons frequently leave from points on the Missouri river and St. Paul's in a body. Settlements are daily springing up, and the gold discoveries are richer and more extensive than in any other portion of the Union. The climate is excellent, and the inducements for emigration are nowhere surpassed.

A few days since the House passed a resolution requesting information from the President as to the number of veterans re-enlisting, &c. The President, on Tuesday, enclosed to them a report from the Secretary of War, who says that, in his opinion it would be prejudicial to the public service to transmit to the House, at the present time, the information requested. A resolution was passed tendering the thanks of Congress to the noble soldiers, who after two years of gallant service "present the sublime spectacle of again voluntarily enrolling themselves in the army of the Union."

An idea may be formed of the reason why the small pug nosed so fearfully a short time since in this city. Officers of the Metropolitan police were detailed to ascertain how many persons reside in the District of Columbia who have not been vaccinated. They report as follows:

1st sub-district, Georgetown	611
2d sub-district, Georgetown	1,423
3d sub-district, First Ward	1,722
4th sub-district, Second Ward	1,280
5th sub-district, Third Ward	1,172
6th sub-district, Fourth Ward	1,431
7th sub-district, Fifth Ward	1,225
8th sub-district, half of Sixth Ward	1,225
9th sub-district, Seventh Ward	2,432
Total	15,757

No report from the 11th sub-district, the country. Surgeon Joseph E. Barnes has been confirmed by the Senate as Medical Inspector General with the rank of Colonel in the army of the U. S. He has been performing the duties of Surgeon General ever since Surgeon General Hammond was relieved. The latter is still on trial for various misdemeanors while in office.

A Commission has been appointed by the Secretary of War to visit all camps where rebel prisoners are confined and administer the oath to all who are willing to take it under the late proclamation.

Hon. John Covode, Hon. George Lawrence and Gen. C. P. Markle of Western Pennsylvania are here in consultation with the President, Secretary of War and Provost Marshal General Fry, to see if some arrangement cannot be made by which veterans could be credited to districts in which they belong, and not to those districts offering the most money. As yet they have not met with much success in their mission.

The army has not moved, nor is there any immediate prospect. The late rains have made the roads and raised every stream bank full. We are anxiously waiting to learn the result of Gen. Kilpatrick's cavalry expedition. S. C.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Democrats of Connecticut have nominated S. Seymour for Governor, and selected delegates to the Democratic National Convention without instruction.

The New York Tribune says: "The resolutions submitted to the Missouri House of Representatives nominating Mr. Lincoln for re-election have been tabled by 45 to 30."

The Democratic Convention of Cumberland County have elected Rufus E. Shadley, Esq., representative delegate to the State Convention, and instructed in favor of Gen. McClellan for President.

The Democrats of New York have selected delegates to the National Convention, with instructions to vote as a unit as the majority may determine. Not a word for "Little Mac" (Gen. Seymour) and Dean Richmond lead the delegation.

The Democracy of Washington county held a convention recently, and adopted a resolution instructing their delegate to the State convention to vote "first, last and all the time," for delegates to the National convention, in favor of the nomination of Gen. McClellan for the Presidency.

The Slave State Freedom convention, which met at Louisville, Ky., on the 22d, adjourned on the 23d, after adopting a series of anti-slavery resolutions condemning the President's amnesty proclamation as injurious to the Union cause, and affirming the one term principle for the Presidency.

The copperhead Legislature of Delaware has voted down, by 14 to 7, the bill for the relief of families of volunteers. Resolutions in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war, of thanks to the army, and sympathy with the wounded and the families of soldiers slain or disabled, shared the same fate.

The Indiana Union State Convention unanimously passed resolutions endorsing the Administration, renominating President Lincoln, and demanding the abolition of slavery as the cause of the war and the reason of its continuance.—Governor Morton was unanimously renominated for election as Governor of the State.

The York Gazette publishes a communication from Perry county urging Hon. A. J. Glassbroener as the Democratic candidate for Congress in that district. Couldn't a recommendation be made nearer home? Considering that Perry voted against him the last time over two to one, the suggestion comes with a bad grace from that quarter.

The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial states, upon the very highest authority, that Gen. Grant has, within a few days, formally, peremptorily, and in most decisive terms, rejected direct offers made to him lately by leading Democratic politicians to secure his nomination for the Presidency by their National Convention.

The rebels have gone through the motion of choosing members of Congress for Kentucky—the voting being confined entirely to the rebel army, as no rebel election could be held in the State. There were but 908 votes polled, that number of votes electing twelve Congressmen. Among the successful candidates are Burnitt and Marshall, formerly members of the United States Congress.

The Union Convention of Maryland met in Baltimore on the 22d ult., and elected delegates to the National Union Convention. Resolutions declaring Mr. Lincoln their first and only choice for the Presidency, and in favor of immediate and universal Emancipation were adopted with great unanimity. Frederick A. Schley, of Frederick, and Isaac Nesbit, of Hagerstown, are the delegates from the Washington district.

The next approach of the National Union Convention, naturally excited interest in the various manifestations of sentiment on the Presidency. New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maryland, Iowa and Indiana have already selected delegates instructed for the re-nomination of President Lincoln. The Union members of the legislature of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Minnesota, Kansas and California, have also expressed a preference for Mr. Lincoln with great unanimity. Missouri has voted down resolutions in favor of Mr. Lincoln, and the Freeman Convention of the Border States have declared in favor of the one term principle. The New York Tribune and Evening Post have both expressed a preference for a new man. In Philadelphia the North American, Bulletin, Press and News favor Mr. Lincoln, and the Inquirer and Chronicle favor Mr. Chase.

The National Republican Committee met in Washington on the 22d ult.—Hon. Edwin D. Morgan in the chair. Hon. Edward M. Pherson was elected Secretary in place of Hon. Geo. S. Fogg, now absent. The following call for a National Union Convention was adopted: "The undersigned, who by original appointment or subsequent designation fill vacancies, constitute the Executive Committee created by the National Convention held at Chicago on the 16th day of May 1860, do hereby call upon all qualified voters who desire the unconditional maintenance of the Union, the supremacy of the Constitution and the complete suppression of the rebellion, with the cause thereof by vigorous war and all apt and efficient means, to send delegates to a Convention to assemble at Baltimore on Tuesday, the 7th day of June, 1864, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of presenting candidates for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States. Each State having a representation in Congress will be entitled to as many delegates as shall be equal to twice the number of electors to which each State is entitled in the Electoral College of the United States."

FINANCIAL.

The total number of National Banks now authorized is 299, and their total capital \$32,352,200.

It is a popular error that promissory notes under \$20 do not require an excise stamp. All notes, however small the amount, must bear a stamp.

Several new National Banks have been authorized in this State. The Third National Bank of Philadelphia; First National Bank of Lebanon; First National Bank of Wrightsville, and First National Bank of Altoona.

A counterfeit bill on the bank of Gettysburg has just been issued. It is of the denomination of \$20. It is so well executed that the best judges are apt to be taken in by it, the vignette being pasted on the centre of the note. The signatures on the counterfeit are W. G. M'Pherson, cashier, and R. Smith, President, dated 1845; while the genuine are signed by G. Swope, President, and T. D. Carson, cashier.

The district court of Philadelphia recently decided that a bond, covenanted for the payment of "the just sum of twelve thousand dollars lawful silver money of the United States," is canceled by paying the sum in legal tender notes of the government. Judges Stroud and Hare declared opinions for the majority of the court, and Judge Sharwood dissented. This is the first decision in this State on the constitutionality of the legal tender currency.

Free Banks have been put in operation in this State under our State Free Banking law. The Farmers Bank of Mount Joy has \$35,000 capital paid in. The Government Bank of Pottsville has \$50,000; the Petroleum Bank, Titusville, has \$100,000; the Clearfield County Bank has \$50,000; the Downingtown Bank has \$50,000; the Mechanicsburg Bank has \$25,500; the Milton Bank has \$24,500 and the Venango Bank has \$100,000. The Millin County Bank, Lewisport, has a cash capital of \$25,000, and has a special charter making real estate the basis of security. There are no other Banks in this State under the Free Banking law. They are all regarded as solvent, as State and government stocks are pledged for the redemption of the notes.

The seventeenth Annual Report of the Penn Railroad Company presents the financial condition of the corporation in a most flattering aspect. The total earnings of the road during the last year were \$11,591,492.95, three times the entire revenues of the State; and the ordinary expenditures amounted to \$6,750,000.21, leaving a balance as net earnings of \$5,111,412.74. The company is making heavy exertions to complete its double track, erect buildings, and construct lateral roads. A dividend of five per cent was declared last fall, and an extra stock dividend of fifteen dollars per share was declared a few weeks ago. The gross earnings of the canals owned by the company were \$277,156.52, and the expenditures \$322,374.32—leaving a deficit of over \$75,000. Under the bill by which the Main Line was sold to the company, they are required to keep them open perpetually, and they will be a steady loss to the corporation.

SUMMARY OF WAR NEWS.

Despatches from Newbern, N. C., state that the Rebels are making preparations for another attempt to repossess themselves of Eastern North Carolina.

Capt. Sawyer and Ryan, who were sentenced to death by the Rebel authorities at Richmond, in retaliation for the hanging of two spies by Gen. Burnside, have been exchanged.

The reports as to Gen. Sherman's movements are still contradictory. One despatch reports that Gen. McPherson's Corps had arrived at Jackson, Mississippi, and that the whole of the expeditionary force would soon return there. President Lincoln directs that deserters condemned to death by courts-martial, and whose sentences have not been otherwise acted upon by himself, shall be sent to the Dry Tortugas, Florida, to remain imprisoned until the close of the war.

The Rebel Government ignores the 22d of February as Washington's birthday, and celebrates it only as "the anniversary of the inauguration of the Confederate Government under the permanent Constitution." So says the Richmond Enquirer.

The Washington Republican states that a letter regarding the Florida reverse, from Major John Hay, has been received, from which it appears that our total loss in killed and wounded was eight hundred, instead of twelve hundred. Gen. Seymour acted contrary to orders, or at least without orders, in pushing his advance so far, and upon him the responsibility for the disaster mainly rests.

An arrival at New York from New Orleans announces that Admiral Farragut was operating actively against Mobile. The mortar and gunboat fleet were bombarding Fort Powell, at the entrance to Grant's Pass, and it was believed that it would not hold out long. The Rebel arm Tennessee was inside Mobile Bay, near Fort Morgan. Troops were being forwarded from New Orleans to take part in the attack on Mobile.

Col. Straight says that the country lying between Richmond and the Potomac is filled with a class of persons who are either trying to escape Rebel conscription, or endeavoring to come within our lines. The Colonel passed all the fortifications of Richmond, and states that they are almost entirely unmanned. But two thousand and soldiers are located in and around Richmond, and the majority of these are employed in guard duty over Union prisoners. The home guard of Richmond numbers between two and three thousand soldiers. Some fifteen thousand prisoners are now confined in and around Richmond, Belle Island, &c.

PERSONAL.

Mr. Joseph C. Hofer has been appointed cashier of the First National Bank of Carlisle, in place of Mr. Hepburn, dec'd.

The Governor has appointed Richard Perry chief forest inspector, and Jacob Zeigler deputy inspector, for Allegheny county.

Wallace De Witt, Esq., of Harrisburg, has been appointed Prothonotary of the Supreme Court, in place of Hon. Wm. H. Miller.

John D. Burns, of Gettysburg, who joined the Union army and fought in the great battle at that place, is to have a pension of eight dollars a month by special act of Congress.

Rev. Dr. Schuncker, for over thirty years a Professor of the Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Pa., has announced his intention to resign his position in August next.

Col. Puleston recently gave Gov. Curtin a brilliant party at his residence in Washington, which was attended by several cabinet officers, Speaker Colfax and many other high dignitaries in Washington.

GEN. KILPATRICK'S RAID.

The recent raid of General Kilpatrick upon Richmond, was the boldest of the war, and would doubtless have succeeded in releasing our prisoners but for two fatal but unavoidable accidents. We give the following detailed account of it from the Tribune's correspondent. Col. Dahlgren has since come into our lines with 100 men, so that the number missing is but about fifty.

The much talked of raid by Gen. Kilpatrick has ended with success in cutting the railroads between Lee's army and Richmond (the destruction of much property, stores, &c., and the actual shelling of Richmond).

Starting on Sunday, at 3 A. M. from camp with five thousand cavalry, picked from his own and Gen. Merritt's and Gregg's divisions, he proceeded to the Rapidan Crossing, at Ely's Ford. From thence the column marched to Spottsylvania Court House, which place he reached without encountering any of the enemy.

From Spottsylvania Court House to the end of his daring journey he was more or less harassed by the rebels, and frequently found that his lines had fallen in very unpleasant places. At the place last named the command was divided into different parties, who were to scour the country, as they proceeded toward a common centre, Richmond.

Every road was to be carefully scouted, that no concealed foes, even in small numbers, should be left behind, so as to concentrate and worry them as they advanced.

On Monday they reached the Virginia Central Railroad, and tore up the track in four places, destroying whatever property would render the road useless. At Frederick's Hall, on the Central Railroad, they came upon a court martial peacefully holding its sessions, and captured a colonel, five captains, and two lieutenants. Gen. Lee had passed over the railroad, on his way to his army but about an hour before our men reached it.

As the forces near Richmond, the two main parties began concentrating. Col. Dahlgren was to move down to the right of Richmond, destroying as much of the James River Canal as possible; then taking the river road, to cross opposite and enter the city from the south side, and attempt the deliverance of the prisoners on Belle Isle. Gen. Kilpatrick, with the main body, was to attack the city by the Brooke turnpike simultaneously, if possible, with the other movement.

It was hoped to reach the city on Monday night or early on the following morning, when a partial if not total surprise could be effected. Two of those fatalities which more than once during this war have snatched success from the very grasp of those who, by their valor and daring, have richly deserved the victor's crown, interposed to prevent the consummation of one of the best conceived and most brilliant plans of the whole war.

Col. Dahlgren had taken a negro to pilot him to Richmond. The detachment had rapidly moved across the country, destroying barns, forage, and everything which could possibly be of service to the enemy. Pushing on so as to reach Richmond as soon as possible, Col. Dahlgren discovered that his negro guide had betrayed him, and led him towards Goochland instead of to Richmond, and on Tuesday morning he found himself miles in just the opposite direction from that which he wished to take.

The negro was promptly hung for his baseness. Exasperated by this treachery, the men burned the barns and out-buildings of John A. Seddon, rebel Secretary of War, and it is perhaps fortunate that the gentleman himself was not present.

Retracing his steps, Col. Dahlgren marched down the river and destroyed the Flour Mills, several private flour establishments and saw mills. His force also did considerable injury to the James river canal, burning canal-boats and seriously damaging one or two locks. They did not reach the immediate vicinity of Richmond till afternoon, when every body was on the alert; Kilpatrick having already made his attack.

Col. Dahlgren's detachment was divided into several parties, for the accomplishment of different objects, keeping together, however. One party attempted to cross the river, but were repulsed. A very sharp fight ensued, and, finding the river in superior numbers, and confronting them on every road, the force was compelled to fall back. In attempting to cut their way out, Maj. Cook, of the 2d New York, with about hundred and fifty men, got separated from the rest.

Meanwhile, Gen. Kilpatrick had advanced down the Brook's turnpike from Ashland, having torn up the rails at that point, destroying the telegraph as he marched. At one station, however, an operator succeeded in sending a dispatch to Richmond announcing that the Yankees were coming.

He was a prisoner in less than fifteen minutes, but that short time put Richmond on the qui vive, and it has been ascertained that about a dozen pieces were put in battery and new entrenchments thrown up while awaiting his arrival.

The troops reached the outer fortifications only on Tuesday morning, and as the spies and houses of the city came in view, cheer upon cheer went up from our men.

Riding rapidly forward, the outer line of works was entered. The rebels, then surrounded, threw down their arms, many of them surrendering, and others taking to their heels. A fight ensued for the next line, but the batteries were too much for them, and so, with his battery, Gen. Kilpatrick opened upon the city.

There is no doubt that the men would have dashed upon and taken anything that stood in their way, so enthusiastic had they become; but Gen. Kilpatrick acted the wiser part, and, as the shrill whistle of the locomotive told of the arrival of reinforcements from Pickens' Brigade, at Bottom's Bridge and vicinity, he reluctantly gave the order to move towards Mechanicsville.

That this was difficult to do, became apparent on every road the column encountered, and a series of manoeuvres took place, in which the enemy were found to be on the alert at every point. Night coming on, Kilpatrick, with his exhausted and weary men, and made preparations to camp. He had a camp place, however, too near a rebel camp, and of this he was reminded by being shell-out of his position; so the command groped its way in the darkness and gloom, fighting when pressed too hard, and with the tollable whistle of the locomotive now warning them that troops were being hurried back to Bottom Bridge in the effort of cutting off the retreat.

The cavalry left Williamsburg on Monday night, and arrived on Tuesday morning about eight o'clock. On Tuesday afternoon, Col. Spear took a portion of his cavalry force and proceeded to Unstated Station, where he destroyed a new steam saw-mill and its machinery, burned a freight car and twenty thousand feet of lumber. Tuesday night a portion of Kilpatrick's force was discovered, but not knowing whether they were rebels or not, preparations were made to give them a warm reception. On Wednesday morning the question was solved, and as the two columns of cavalry came in on both sides of the colored brigade, drawn up to receive them, the mutual cheers were deafening.

This incident is marked from the fact that heretofore the Army of the Potomac, and particularly the cavalry, have entertained a marked dislike to colored troops. After resting while they resumed their march down the Peninsula, Gen. Davis, who led, had several men shot by guerrillas, and Gen. Kilpatrick and his attendants chased a body of them, capturing a lieutenant and two men. The force picked up on that day, or within an hour of the Potomac, was about one hundred and fifty men, are missing.

If our friends in the legislature would see themselves as others see them, we commend to their careful perusal the following extract from the Pittsburg Commercial:

"Just at present, our own Legislators at Harrisburg have been indulging in a series of Legislative stump speaking. The subject immediately pending is compensation to the citizens along the Southern border of the State for injuries done to their property by the rebel armies of 1862 and '63. The great body of the speakers, however, have had no immediate bearing on that subject. We ought to except Mr. ... of Washington, who introduced the resolutions, and Mr. Sharpe, of Franklin. Their speeches were confined to the subject matter before the House. Nearly all the others, however, have made their speeches on the general politics of the State and Nation, without even a passing allusion to the pending business. We believe no one can attend to the subject matter before us, so far, taken any part in the debate, who most likely they will follow the example and have their say before the debate closes."