Franklin Repository.

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LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

Editorial Correspondence of the Franklin Repository.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18, 1864.

Again we have whispers of Peace. How the National heart throbs at the utterance of the word. Now that the country is assured by the solemn verdict of the people that no peace involving dismemberment or dishonor can be attained during the next four years, the faintest star of hope that glimmers in the dark horizon of grim war's desolation, is greeted on every hand with most fervent prayers that it may break upon us in the noon-tide of triumph. The people want Peace; not the Peace of Chicago, that would shame the living and blot the memory of the dead; that would exchange the sad exactions and sacrifices of war for anarchy and the supremacy of treason; but the Peace that will re-unite the States; make North and South again one people, with a common Constitution, a common Freedom, and a common Glory.

This is the hunger-cry of the Nation. It comes not from the faithless, but from the faithful who have stood resolutely against traitors in arms and their subtle, treacherous allies in the North; and to its consumation their best energies will be devoted. No mere abstractions; no pride of opinion; no mean ambition; no sanctity for the records of statesmanship; no trembling for the shifting sands of old duties as they are supplanted by those of to-day, can stand in the way of peace. But one issue can warrant protracted war—the unity of the States. That once attained, the mission of the sword is ended, and the peaceful channels ordained by government must give the sequel of this bloody drama.

To this end—the preservation of our common Nationality—and to it alone, has this war been prosecuted. Weak men have thought otherwise; bad men have wished otherwise, and so appealed to cupidity and prejudice to give heart and hope to our relentless foes. That emancipation has sprung from the chaos of civil war to strike treason in its most vital element of power, is not a perversion of the great object of the conflict; but an auxiliary to its grand consumation, and was a necessity as imperious as the laws of gravitation. It has no sanction in the civil powers of the government; but from the war powers of the constitution it comes clothed with all the ceremony of law, and while those powers are called into exercise for the common safety, there is no appeal from the inexorable decree of military necessity. But war must one day cease, and when its appalling shadows shall have passed away, then must the duties of adjustment return to the people in their sovereign capacity, or to the lawful channels known to peace.

I am glad to see the discussion of Peace North and South. It cannot but bring golden fruits. It may disappoint the hopes of the sanguine by its tardiness of fruition; but every newspaper article, every speech, every public resolution coming from loyal hearts, must fall upon some "good ground," and hasten in a greater or less degree the termination of this wanton, cruel struggle. I was glad to read the pointed remarks of Gen. Butler in New York last week, and also the able and well matured articles of Col. Forney, ("Occasional,") in the Philadelphia *Press*. They fully appreciate the great issues with which we have to grapple. They have the grasp of mind and moral courage to still the wild shouts of partizan triumph with the solemn duties victory has imposed, and declare to friend and foe that the late National vindication of its own life, shall be the signal for magnanimity, not intolerance: for generously re-uniting, not dividing, and that as the country has just declared for war until its insulted laws shall be respected and supreme, the boon of promise, the silver-lining of conciliation and hope shall go out with the verdict demanding the preservation of the Republic.

I do not speak advisedly, but I shall be disappointed if President Lincoln does not, in his forthcoming message, leave no channel closed to efforts for Peace. Should he do so, he would fall short in the discharge of his highest and holiest duty to the people. Just how he will present the issue to the country, he must be the best judge; and knowing as I do that he is of all others, the most solicitous for an early and honorable close of this exhausting war, I am prepared to yield much to his suggestions and councils when he presents them to the world. He may not go so far as many would wish, and may go beyond what others would advise; but I have abiding faith that he will keep his heart steadily fixed upon the star of enduring Peace, and exhaust his renewed powers to make rugged ways smooth and crooked paths straight for the Nation to crown itself with perpetual Union.

It is worthy of note how a mere whisper of Peace vibrates upon the chords of the National heart. A few days ago there were rumors of movements in the insurgent States looking to reconstruction; and gold toppled forty per cent.; the whirl of speculation was arrested; bulls mourned in the marts of commerce, and there was renewed activity in the legitimate channels of business. I do not share the spasmodic joy that springs from some ill-defined conviction of the immediate dawn of Peace. It is not visible to the cool observer; it has no tangible form around which to gather hopes that the conflict is about to close. No action has been taken in the rebel States looking to an immediate breaking up of the power of treason; but the People who have thus far bowed to the tyranny of crime are widening and deepening the chasm between them and the remorseless despoilers who have given them desolation and mourning for peace and plenty. To them the government should appeal in most generous terms, and thus place upon them the responsibility of future war so clearly that the world cannot fail to recognize the necessity for its continuance, if continue it must. With their leaders, there is no hope. Jefferson Davis will not exchange his frail Empire, though thick with wanton tombs and stricken with consuming sorrow, by his own mad perfidy. Desolated, bereaved, and shrouded in woe by his own acts, still it is the only spot of earth that owns him as potentate, and he can surrender it only to meet the hissing scorn of the living or to die in infamy. To the long suffering but now restive victims of his colossal crime must the government appeal; and we await the issue with mingled hopes and fears. If the doors to Peace are closed by their refusal to throw off the hated, deadly yoke of treason, then must the sword fulfil its crimsoned work, and subjugation with its withering retribution, must close the war. With such an alternative, who would not err on the side of conciliation to spare his own fair land so sad a destiny?

To strengthen the hope of Peace the government must be fully prepared for war. It must be ready for every possible contingency. It must be more than ready for renewed war, if it must come; and in overwhelming armies is our confidence to save life and treasure and hasten the termination of the conflict. The last call for troops has but little more than supplied the losses of the summer campaigns and the withdrawal of veterans by the expiration of their term of service. Certainly not over 120,000 men have been actually put into the service under it. Naval credits and credits on previous calls exhausted two-fifths of the number, and the persistent, systematic efforts of faithless men have measurably defeated the filling up of our ranks by encouraging desertions. The previous call for 700,000 men did not put 50,000 actually into the army, as the latitudinous exemptions and the payment of commutation relieved almost every conscript, and when it is considered that all the three years' men of 1861 were discharged during this season, it will not be a matter of surprise that the army is not now larger than when the campaign opened in May last. I doubt not therefore that a call for additional troops will be made this winter, so that if the rebels reject all efforts for Peace, their refusal will be met with vigor and irresistible power on the part of the government.

Sherman is known to be on the war path, and if he shall achieve decisive success, our present armies may be quite equal to the great work of closing out the rebellion. With an army of not less than 50,000 men he has cut loose from Atlanta and moved for the sea-coast, probably at Savannah or Charleston. He will, I trust, liberate our suffering prisoners in Georgia, and it is understood that he will arm all rescued prisoners and slaves who may be found in his sweep. It is the boldest movement in the history of warfare, and is attended with great perils; but the country has faith in Sherman and will confidently hope for his success. Should he reach Charleston or Savannah, I shall not be surprised if the major portion of his army is thrown rapidly by transports to Grant, and Richmond captured before the close of the year. With such a success, which is more than possible, the war would close before the 1st of April next.

—There are few strangers now in the capital. The President looks quite well, and is most hopeful of the overthrow of the rebellion. However gratified by the flattering vote by which he has been re-elected, no one appreciates better than himself the solemn responsibilities imposed upon him. He is charged with the safety of the great Free Government of the world against the combined assaults of treason and despotism, and to the discharge of his sacred trust his whole energies will be devoted with unfaltering fidelity. Secretary Stanton is ill—worn down with the exacting duties of his Department. He will soon retire unless he improves. I see Gen. Banks on the street looking as active and fresh as when he was Speaker of the House. His head is a little more silvered, and his military moustache gives him a different air; but his compactly knit frame, keen eye and finely chiseled face are the same. I would indeed that his military success had been equal to his civil renown. Gen. Gilmore is also here, and his soft blue eye and fair face and locks would mark him for some other trade than war. Tom Corwin is one of the lions of the town. His step is measured and heavy, and the rude ravages of remorseless Time have done their work with him; but his eye still glistens with the fire and humor of his youth, and a happy, green old age is fitly crowning one of the ablest and best of our living Statesmen. Thurlow Weed, the sagacious, reticent, imperturbable politician, may also be seen to-day upon the Avenue. Although three score and ten, age has dealt kindly with him, and his large, rugged frame seems to defy the waste of years, while he is without his peerage a political leader. Col. Forney looks none the worse of his active campaign for Lincoln's re-election. His step is as elastic and his spirits as buoyant as twenty years ago when his keen pen flashed in the columns of the *Pennsylvanian*, and led the successful hosts against the gallant Harry of the West. Kind, genial, generous to a fault, and as faithful in his friendship as he is forgetful of his wrongs, there are few so much beloved as John W. Forney. Like Greely—his only peer as a great journalist—he is the architect of his own just fame, and he wears no honors that he has not more than earned.

A. K. M.

BORDER DEFENCE.

It is a matter of general congratulation that the people of the border have resolved to protect themselves against the bands of plundering guerrillas to which we are ever exposed. They have taken timely measures for defence, and therein will be their safety. Military organizations have been formed in Chambersburg, Greencastle, Waynesboro and Mercersburg, and the active men of other and more sparsely populated parts of the county are preparing themselves to be ready for thieving parties in search of horses and plunder.

Let no man assume that because the rebels did not come into our county when they were at Sheppardstown some ten days ago, the border is now safe for a time at least, and organization is needless.—Gen. Couch did but his duty in calling upon the people to be prepared for small rebel incursions. He did not counsel with the people because he feared danger just at that particular time more than any other; but he did so because he felt that the peril was constant and imminent, and one against which troops unaided by armed citizens could not afford protection. The danger is not now from movements such as Stuart, Jenkins and M'Causland made in our midst with two or three thousand men, but from small bands of desperate thieves who will come, if they come at all, to plunder and destroy indiscriminately as far as they can do so with reasonable safety. They have their spies among us in the guise of refugees and in various other assumed characters, and are perfectly familiar with the condition of our people and the prospects of plunder. If we are unprepared they will know just when and where to strike to steal horses, plunder stores and banks, and capture officers and citizens if wanted; and we hazard little in saying that such incursions will be frequent hereafter unless they know that they will be met by resolute men and trusty rifles.

If the people of the border complete their military organizations and perfect them by occasional drill for usefulness in case of danger, we shall have peace. If they do not we shall have continual uneasiness, frequent and disgraceful panics, and occasional robberies and probably murders for our criminal neglect. We therefore appeal to our people to consult their own tranquility, safety and credit by arming thoroughly not only in towns but throughout the country, and resolve that, while all the amenities of war shall be exercised to the foe when they come as soldiers, thieves and fiends of the torch who may steal among us as citizens, shall enjoy our hospitality in the shape of first-class funerals. This, and this only, will give the border security, and the sooner we look the fact in the face the better for us.

The State authorities are taking prompt measures to raise a State force for the special protection of the border, but without vigilance and co-operation on the part of our people bodies of troops in particular localities cannot afford entire safety to the extreme border against small parties.—Just now and henceforth until next spring there is no danger of formidable raids, and by that time we feel assured that there will be a permanent military force to guard the line of the Potomac. But until then—until there is danger of such movements as demand a formidable military force, let the people understand that they can give the utmost security to themselves, and let them discharge that duty with the same fidelity at least that they complain of the government when they are alarmed or plundered. The right steps have been taken—let them be persevered in and we shall each and all feel assured of entire security for our persons and property.

THE MILITARY SITUATION.

All interest in the military situation is just now absorbed in the grand march of Gen. Sherman. He has undertaken the boldest movement of this or any other modern war, and if successful, will deal a most staggering blow to the rebellion. After manouvreing Hood nearly two hundred miles North west of Atlanta, Sherman left Gen. Thomas with ample force to take care of Hood in any offensive movement, and prepared himself for a new base and an entirely new field of operations. He destroyed everything about Atlanta that could be of value to the enemy; tore up his own railroad running from Atlanta to Chattanooga, and with a force of fifty thousand veteran troops has started for the sea-coast, but for just what particular point will be known only when he makes his landing. He will doubtless try to release the Union prisoners in the Cotton States and arm them to swell his ranks, and he will probably be heard from one of these days as thundering at Savannah or Charleston. He is without any organized foe on his route, and can scarcely fail to reach the coast without serious loss; and when once there he can readily re-inforce Grant or be re-inforced by transports. It is useless to speculate as to his particular purpose in this grand movement, as a few days will develop it. If he reaches Charleston or Savannah we shall be disappointed if his troops do not participate in the next great effort to capture Richmond.

Gen. Early is reported as retreating from the Shenandoah Valley. He had retired beyond Fisher's Hill at last accounts, and it is not improbable that most of his forces will be called to Lynchburg and Richmond to be prepared for the movement of Sherman. We do not look for any more formidable movements by the rebels on the border this winter. The transfer of the main body of Sherman's forces within striking distance of Richmond will require a concentration if all Lee's forces to defend the rebel capital; and a heavy force of observation cannot be spared for operations about Winchester. Gen. Grant is evidently waiting for the solution of the Sherman movement, and upon its success his plans and actions will greatly depend. If Sherman reaches him, a most desperate effort will doubtless be made to drive the rebels out of Richmond and Virginia, and with the overwhelming force Grant would then have, it should succeed. If Sherman does not move so as to co-operate directly or endirectly in the siege of Richmond, it is not probable that anything decisive will be attempted on either side in Virginia before the opening of spring.

Gen. Thomas still holds Tennessee securely, and is doubtless able to resist Hood's advance should he attempt it, and Price is completely routed out of Missouri. Altogether the military situation is most favorable, and the close of this eventful and bloody campaign may in a few weeks bring the richest fruits of the war, and give the Nation the sure promise of early and honorable Peace. Heaven speed the day!

SOMEBODY has snuffed—it boots not who, and forthwith the Harrisburg *Telegraph* has sneezed. Nor is it any of your Lord Dundreary sneezes, the luxury of sublimest olfactory titilation, with perfumed kerchief to still the gentle irritation of the nasal membrane; but a wholesome, refreshing sneeze that splashes, splatters and irrigates everybody's face with whom it comes in contact, and like the historic animal that whisks its tail in self-defence, the story of assault is told in the fragrance that crowns the storming column.

We don't know who it was that snuffed. Probably it was Gen. Cameron; probably it was the REPOSITORY. We do not much play organ for great men; don't pin very much to anybody's skirts; don't defer profoundly to mousing ambition; don't tremble at the muttering thunders of mountains in labor when we confidently look for a moderate mouseship as the sequel; but we do ever defend the absent and unsuspecting, and when the *Telegraph* bespattered Gen. Cameron with its column of mingled malice and imbecility, we rushed to his rescue as we should expect Gen. Cameron to rush to ours were the *Telegraph* ever to reach a point of malignity sufficiently intensified to make it speak well of us. When no one was accusing Gen. Cameron, it made a Quixotic tilt at just nobody, and would have proved him an ass but for the fortunate fact that nobody believed it. We kindly, modestly remonstrated that Gen. Cameron did *not* try to lose the October election so as to gain the November election—just what the *Telegraph* unqualifiedly charged, and for thus vindicating Gen. Cameron, it now completes the circle of its logic by repeating the charge and denouncing us, by inuendo, for aiding Gen. Cameron to lose the October election. It insists first that Gen. Cameron, in the execution of his novel and profound strategy, wanted to lose the first election, and second, that we are culpable because we helped him to lose it! When the *Telegraph* unravels itself out of this entanglement will it be kind enough to tell us just what it means? "Father," said a hopeful youth, "either quit praying or quit swearing. I don't care which!"

We know that Gen. Cameron is not a fool, and we will not permit any one to make such assaults upon him with impunity. He has well nigh reached the patriarchal age, and it is due to him and the Nation he has so persistently tried to serve, that his shadowed and declining years shall not be sullied by the discordant follies of the *Telegraph*.

NEVADA is to be added to the list of Lincoln States, making a total of twenty three States and 216 electoral votes for the Right. The popular majority will quite reach 400,000. The army vote is more than three to one for Lincoln in the army once commanded by Gen. M'Clellan, and in the Western armies they voted almost unanimously for Lincoln. The Union majority in this State on Congress in October is 13,859, including the whole vote. On the home vote there is a small Democratic majority. The majority for Lincoln on the home vote is about 10,000, and will be fully 20,000 with the army vote added.

JERE. MCKIBBIN, Esq., one of the State Commissioners, and several agents of the Democratic State Committee for the distribution of tickets in the Army of the Potomac, were arrested on election day and confined in the Old Capital Prison, for alleged frauds in poll-books. An investigation of their case was had last week, resulting in their entire vindication and they have been honorably discharged by the authorities.

THREE of the Columbia draft-rioters have been convicted by a military commission and sentenced. Jno. Bantz was fined $1 000 and sentenced to imprisonment for two years; Saml. Kline was sentenced to two years imprisonment, and Wm. Appleman was fined $500 and to be imprisoned until the fine is paid. Gen Couch has approved the sentences.

A GENERAL order has been issued from headquarters at Harrisburg, Pa., to the Commissioners of the several city and counties in the State, directing the immediate enrollment and classification of the Militia, under the Acts of Assembly of May 4 and August 22, 1864.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Preparations for the Meeting of Congress—Rumors of Cabinet Changes—Trial of Col. North—Arrest of Penna. Agents—Military Affairs—The Election.

Correspondence of the Franklin Repository.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov 18, 1864.

The good people of this city have settled down to their usual avocations since the election.—Every body is busy. Heads of Department and Clerks are working extra hours to get reports ready for Congress. Housekeepers are busy dusting their parlors day and night, and eagerly listning for the jingling of the door-bell with the hope that some member is coming to engage rooms for the winter. Places of amusement are being re-modled and decorated in the highest style of art. Saloon keepers are sparing no pains in arranging gorgeous temptations for the eyes of those, who love to indulge the appetite. Gamblers are busy studying new deals, when by they may "dead beat" some victim, more green than wise. Hundreds of strangers of all classes and trades are daily arriving and settling in various portions of the city according to their means. From all appearances, we are going to have an extremely lively time for the next few months. Very few members have arrived in the city. They will generally occupy their rooms of last winter.

Rumors of cabinet changes fly thick and fast. Where they originate I cannot learn. There is more of imagination than reality in such rumors. There will likely be no immediate change, unless on account of ill-health, Mr. Fessenden should resign—when Robt. J. Walker would end will no doubt after next 4th of March assume the responsible and arduous charge of the Treasury. Gen. Butler is much talked of as the person likely to be Secretary of War, when the President shall make a change. A good many seem to think, that the President has a mind to try his first Secretary, Hon. Simon Cameron, again. At present, these are all matters of speculation and gossip.

The trial of Col. North and others connected with the frauds in the voting of the New York soldiers, has been postponed for two weeks.—They will undoubtedly be convicted, and other persons of more notoriety implicated, before the trial will end. Governor Seymour, to save himself, has sent from New York some of the most talented lawyers to plead their cause.

A number of Pennsylvanians went to the army of the Potomac to distribute tickets and laws necessary for an election on Nov. 8th. A number of them were arrested for distributing to the Soldiers fraudulent Lincoln tickets.

In military matters, the all absorbing question is, where is Sherman? nothing has been heard from him in a few weeks from some point on the sea coast, in North Carolina or perhaps Savanah.

From Grant's army, there is nothing new. Picket firing is kept up most of the time. The movements of his army depends on the movements of Sherman—and we will likely hear stirring news from both armies at the same time.

The election is over—Lincoln triumphantly re-elected and the restoration of the Union safe, through a vigorous prosecution of the war. Since the majority of the citizens of the Loyal States have so overwhelmingly in numbers, endorsed the Administration in its various measures for the suppression of the rebellion, why should not the old feeling of 1861, be again revived!—for

"Fair and sad
In sin and beauty, our beloved earth
Has need of all her sons to make her glad;
Has need of martyrs to refire the hearth
Of her quenched altar—of heroic men
With Friendship's sword or Truth's suspended pen,
To shape the warmest mould of Nobleness again—
To cheer the hero—mingling with his cheer,
Arouse the laggard in the battles rear—
Daunt the stern wicked, and from discord wring
Prevailing harmony"

S. C.

SUMMARY OF WAR NEWS.

—The rebel Semmes is reported to have left Liverpool on the 3d ult., with a crew and armament for his new ship Ranger.

—An official dispatch confirms the wounding of Major General Canby, while going up White river. He was shot in the thigh by a guerilla. The wound is not dangerous. The General has arrived in New Orleans.

—Gen. Pope's official report from the northwest proposes to abolish Indian agencies, and depend upon fair treatment on both sides for peace. The military authorities are to supervise both sides, and Indian wars in the northwest need no longer be feared.

—The black flag captured from Early's command, last August, near North Mountain, has been sent to Washington by Gen. Tyler. General Merritt's cavalry has captured two thousand men and a large amount of material, since the beginning of this campaign in the Shenandoah valley.

—Six persons, including a nephew of the pirate Semmes, were arrested at Chicago on the night of the 14th, accused of conspiring to release rebel prisoners from Camp Douglas. This is a portion of the great conspiracy in the west, and the Grand Scignior of the Order has confessed enough to implicate all and expose the whole.

—During the present campaign in the Shenandoah Valley, the first Cavalry Division commanded by Gen. Merritt has captured 14 battle flags, 20 pieces of artillery, 18 caissons, 200 wagons and ambulances, and 2,000 prisoners of war, including 122 commissioned officers. Since the 1st of May, the command has captured 3,000 prisoners of war.

—The captain of the tin-clad Mississippi river gunboat Rattler sold his boat to the rebels. They approached to take her. The other officers and crew not being in the bargain, fired upon the contractors and saved the boat. The stipulated price was $200,000, together with cotton. He was arrested, but escaped. The rebels intended to capture the General Bragg with the Rattler. The Rattler is a paddle wheel boat, of 165 tons and 6 guns, and was lately commanded by Acting Volunteer Lieutenant James Laning.

—The Rebel General Marmaduke was captured by a little boy belonging to one of the Kansas regiments. He at first refused to surrender to an "inferior officer," but was immediately *persuaded* to do so. The lad brought him to General Curtis' headquarters, where he introduced himself, much to the surprise of all, but especially to the boy hero. General Curtis asked the boy how long he had to serve before his term of service would expire. The reply was, "eight months." The General immediately wrote him a furlough for that time, and presented him with the horse, revolvers, belt, and sabre of the Rebel General.

—Information from Spottsylvania and Stafford counties, Va., shows that Rebel conscripting officers are scouring the country in all directions, and every man under 60, and boys over 15, are impressed into the Rebel service. A few days ago a party of these Rebel officers captured five men, and were conveying them to the rendezvous, when two of them taking a favorable opportunity drew pistols, which they had concealed on their persons, and had the two leaders of the other party dead, which put the others to flight. Men are everywhere hiding in the woods and endeavoring to escape to our lines. Fredericksburg has become so depopulated that it is estimated not more than one house out of every ten is occupied. Fuel is so scarce that the inhabitants are pulling down the vacant houses and using them for firewood, the market price of the article being $150 per cord.

—Advices from the Shenandoah Valley give further particulars of the pursuit of the rebels through and beyond Front Royal by Powell's division of cavalry, and an account of another cavalry victory over the enemy by Gens. Custer and Merritt on the same day. Gen. Powell sent back from the Luray Valley, as the tangible fruits of his chase of Early's flying troopers, two pieces of artillery, one hundred and fifty prisoners, and a large quantity of ammunition. Custer's and Merritt's fighting consisted of several hours skirmishing, the rebels being finally driven back in great confusion. While this cavalry skirmishing was in progress Early advanced his infantry, as far as Middletown, but immediately withdrew on the defeat of his cavalry, and returned to Fisher's Hill. The Union losses in the engagement were very small, both in killed and wounded. Early's infantry force is ascertained to be a considerable one; but Sheridan's men are in excellent condition and the best of spirits, and prepared for the rebels whenever they choose to come on.

—Advices from St. Louis show that since the demoralized remnant of the rebel Gen. Price's army has been driven out of Missouri comparative quiet has settled down upon that sorely tried and long suffering State. Price was pursued well across the line into Arkansas, and even there was not allowed to rest, some additional punishment being inflicted upon him by the pursuing national force in the vicinity of Fayetteville, as our readers have already been informed. This last expedition of the blustering rebel into Missouri, of which such grand results to the confederacy were prophecied by its leaders, has ended most disgracefully and humiliating for it and them. Price's prestige is gone. Missouri stands firmly by the Union, and it is not likely that Jeff Davis will be able to again send into her borders a force sufficient to seriously disturb her. With the disappearance of the main army of the enemy the guerilla outrages in the State have nearly ceased, but their evil doings are likely to be avenged on their sympathizing residents. The loyal people of North Missouri, exasperated to a high degree by the wrongs they have suffered at the hands of these murdering and stealing outlaws, declare that the rebel sympathisers in their midst shall either be driven out or exterminated. Many straggling guerillas, without arms, have recently been captured in that section of the State, some of whom, who were identified beyond a doubt, were shot on the spot.

PERSONAL.

—Mr. Nicolay, the President's private secretary, is quite ill at the Lindell House in St. Louis.

—The Hon. Charles Francis Adams, Minister at London, has expressed his desire to return home.

—John R. Davis, a Friend, residing at Acushnet, Mass., aged 98 years, cast his first vote on the 8th instant.

—J. W. Marshall, the discoverer of gold in California, still lives at Coloma, a poor but respectable citizen.

—John Pittman, Judge of the United States District Court of Rhode Island, died suddenly on Thursday morning.

—Governor Gilmore, of New Hampshire, has put four substitutes into the army, representing himself and three of his sons.

—Hon. John P. Elton, one of the Union Electors at large for Connecticut, who was chosen at the late election, died at Waterbury on Thursday.

—Miss Mary Lee, an American lady, has been married in Paris to a Prince of Schleswig-Holstein, an able diplomatist, and accomplished gentleman.

—Mr. Jacobs, Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky, has been arrested by the Government, and is now on his way to Washington as a political prisoner.

—The widow of John Brown, of historic fame, with several of the family, started overland during the past season, with a drove of cattle and sheep, for California.

—Gov. Curtin has appointed James Watson, of the borough of Washington, President Judge of the Fourteenth Judicial District, composed of the counties of Washington, Fayette and Greene.

—"Long John Wentworth," as he is popularly styled in Chicago, has been returned to Congress, on the Republican ticket, by a majority of twenty-five hundred over McCormick, the reaping machine man.

—Mrs. Jeff. Davis is an unconscious contributor to the National Sailors' Fair at Boston: a box of clothing which was captured on the blockade-runner Hope, intended for her, having been presented to the fair.

—Commander Napoleon Collins, of the United States gunboat Wachusett, the captor of the pirate Florida, is fifty years of age, and has been about thirty years in the naval service, over twenty-one of which he spent at sea.

—Joseph C. Hays, Esq., after spending more than a quarter of a century in the publishing business at Meadville, Pa., has sold the *Journal* establishment and retired. Mr. John D. Nicholas, a thorough Union Republican, succeeds Mr. Hays.

—Capt. Winslow, who whipped and sunk the rebel vessel Alabama, claimed as it was by British seamen, has returned to this country, and is receiving the honors of Boston. One of his first acts after setting foot on shore was to vote for Lincoln.

—Geo. H. Williams, the new Senator from Oregon, is a native of Massachusetts. He removed to Oregon upon being appointed Chief Justice of that territory under President Pierce. He was a Douglas Democrat in 1860, and now supports Abraham Lincoln.

—General Crook, of Ohio, one of Sheidan's ablest Lieutenants, has recently been made a full Major General. He has held this rank by brevet since last July. No general officers in the army has more justly carded his present position by able and faithful service, than General Crook.

—The resignation of Gen. McClellan as an officer of the army of the United States has been accepted, and President Lincoln in fitting and graceful terms assigns to the gallant Sheridan the vacant Major-Generalship, his commission to date from the 8th instant. The whole country will rejoice in this reward of merit which the President says has been won by "personal gallantry, military skill, and great confidence in the courage and patriotism of his troops."

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

—Boston gave 917 majority against Mr. Lincoln on his first election; now 5,063 for him.

—Orange, N. J., the home of M'Clellan, gave 102 majority for Lincoln—last year only 9 majority.

—There is not a solitary Democrat in the Senate of Massachusetts, and but six in the House, out of 238.

—The banner town in Vermont is appropriately named Lincoln. It voted Abraham Lincoln 206, M'Clellan nary one.

—Gen McClellan having given up Presidential aspirations, wants New Jersey to send him to the United States Senate.

—The banner towns of Massachusetts are: Marshfield, the home of Daniel Webster, which gave Lincoln 224, M'Clellan none; Pembroke,—Lincoln 204, M'Clellan none: Dana—Lincoln 128, M'Clellan none.

—Returns from 106 towns in New Hampshire, of the vote on the question of calling a Convention to alter the Constitution of the State, so as to enable soldiers to vote when absentin the service of the country, &c., give 12,240 for the Convention to 4,710 against it. The Convention is carried.

—The Springfield (Mass.) *Republican* says some idiosyncratic person cast a ballot which began:—"For Governor, General Sheridan; for Lieutenant-Governor, Gen. Sheridan; for Secretary of the Commonwealth, Gen. Sheridan;" and kept on in that way to the end of the chapter, with the single exceptions that James E. Russell, and not General Sheridan, was the candidate for Register of Deeds.

—One of the happiest events of the late election is the success of the Republicans in Illinois, in carrying both branches of the Legislature in that State. This secures two most desirable results—first, in turning of the notorious demagogue and doughface, Dick Richardson, out of the United States Senate; and, second, the probable filling of his place with that sterling and able Unionist, Governor Dick Yates. We have heard no other person mentioned as Richardson's successor, and, in this connection, although we are not immediately interested, no other would probably give as much satisfaction.

GEN. BUTLER'S PLAN FOR PEACE.

Gen. Butler had a reception at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, on Monday week, where he was waited upon by a large number of his personal and political friends. In the course of the evening he made a speech, in which he expressed his conviction that the result of the late Presidential election was a moral victory for the national cause more important and decisive than a signal triumph of our arms. He held it to be a demonstration of the willingness of the people to brave other sacrifices and sufferings, if need be, in defence of the unity and perpetuity of the Republic, and said it would be so regarded in Europe and in those portions of our country still under rebel domination. He then proceeded to speak as follows on the question of reconciliation and peace:

"What is the duty of the Government in the present future? War cannot last always. The history of nations shows—the experience of the world demonstrates that war must come to an end. But how? In what way? A war such as this, prosecuted for the purpose of breaking down the power of those opposed to the Government, and to bring them under the supremacy of its laws, must be terminated either by reconciliation or subjugation. In view, therefore, of the unanimity of the American people, in view of the strength, the majesty, the might of the nation, may it not be suggested that now is the time to hold out to the deluded people of the South the olive branch of peace, and say to them, '*Come back, come back, and leave off feeding on husks, and share with us the fat of the land, and bygones shall be bygones, if bygones are bygones, and in one country and with one law we shall live in peace hereafter.*' [Cheers.]

"Are we not able to offer them this now? Are we not strong enough? Do we not stand firmly, with unanimity of sentiment enough to offer peace to all, if all will submit to the laws? There might have been some complaints, I think, among a proud and chivalrous people that they would not desert their leaders, by taking advantage of the amnesty proclamation of President Lincoln. But now when we come to them and say, '*Come back and you shall find the laws the same, save so far as they have been altered by the legislative wisdom of the land—both for leaders and followers.*' Can there be any excuse for either if they rebelliously remain in contempt of the authority of the Government? Are we not in a condition now, not taking counsel from our fears or from our weakness, but of our strength and magnanimity, *again to make offers of peace and amity in the most beneficient terms, but for the last time?* By so doing shall we not, in the eyes of the world, have exhausted all the resources of statesmanship in an effort to restore peace to the country? [Applause.]

"Who shall hinder them from returning? And if they will not come back, who shall complain? Let us not permit the rebel, after he has fought as long as he can, and then, if he chooses, come back. Let us state some time, perhaps the 8th of January—for the association will be as good as any—for all to lay down their arms and submit to the laws, and, when that hour has passed, to every man who shall scout the proffered amnesty of a great and powerful nation, speaking in love, in charity, in kindness, in hope of peace and quiet forever to its rebellious sons, I *say then let us meet him or them with sharp, quick, decisive war, which shall bring the rebellion to an end forever by the extinguishment of such men, wherever they may be found.* [Applause.]

"How is that to be done? Blood and treasure have been poured out without stint or measure, until, taking advantage of the supposed depletion of treasure, bad men have banded together, and by speculating in gold, which ought to be the circulating medium, have raised the price of coals upon every poor man's hearth and the price of bread upon every poor man's table. Let the Government take some measure to stop this unholy traffic, and let it be understood that the policy of the Government will be hereafter to pay no more bounties for the recruitment of soldiers from the taxes of the loyal North; but, taking counsel from the Roman method of carrying on war, say to our young men, 'Look to the fair fields of the sunny South: they have refused our amnesty and offers of peace; they have turned away the day of grace. Go down there in arms in support of the Government, extinguish the rebellion, and you shall have what you conquer, in a fair division of the lands to each man to pay for his military service. We will open new land offices wherever our armies march, dividing the lands of the rebellious States among our soldiers, to be theirs and their heirs forever.' [Applause.]

"A harsh measure, it may be said, but is it not quite as just as to tax ourselves, and thus raise the price of the necessaries of life for the purpose of giving bounty to and supporting the soldier in fighting those rebellious men whom we have three times over solemnly called to come and enjoy with us the blessings of our liberties and be friends.

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"I think it has always been claimed that we should be strong enough after a great victory to offer to the rebels new terms of peace. I never expect to see in arms or in civil affairs a greater victory than the one we have just achieved; and I think we are now strong enough to make that offer with due regard to our interest, our dignity, and our honor as a nation. [Applause.]

"I take it that the most squeamish of all the friends of the country will agree with us when they find that in truth we have 'exhausted every resource of statesmanship' in attempting to obtain peace by an offer of amnesty and forgetfulness of the past, limited only by a submission to the laws. We will then be ready to make war—ay, war to the hilt—and such war as should be made to decide the fate of a great nation. Therefore, I look upon this victory as the one which has decided the war—decided it, if not in a military point of view, yet overwhelmingly as a civil victory, which, after all, decides the fate of nations everywhere.

"To this it may be answered: if we carry on the war with the strength and stringency which I have suggested, how shall we ever live in the same land with the men with whom we thus fight? Let us go to the teachings of history, and draw from the history of that land which we were once proud to own as the mother country. Every considerable estate in England, in the wars under Cromwell, passed through the courts or commissioners of confiscation; every considerable household fought against every other considerable household; the people fought against the nobles, and the nobles against the people. And yet, when the King came to his own again, the nation came together, cemented in friendship, never to be thereafter divided. Is there any difficulty, then, in looking at the teachings of the history of the Anglo-Saxon, to know how to live in quiet and peace, ay, in amity and friendship, with those with whom we have been fighting? Is it not a well-known rule of social action that those who have fought bitterly, after the fight is over, are more ready than ever to take each other by the hand? They are more endeared to us after a fair fight, and we are more ready to respect both them and their rights. Therefore, I see no difficulty in every good man of the South and every good man of the North coming together—to let bygones be bygones."

THE REBEL GOVERNMENT.

The second session of the second rebel congress met at Richmond on Monday of last week. The following is a list of the officers of the bogus confederacy:

President—Jefferson Davis, Mississippi.
Vice President—Alex. H. Stephens, Georgia.
Secretary of State.—Judah P. Benjamin, Louisiana.
Secretary of the Treasury.—Jas. L. Trenholm, S. C.
Secretary of War—James R. Seddon, Va.
Secretary of the Navy.—S. R. Mallory, Florida.
Post Master General.—J. H. Regan, Texas.
Attorney General.—George Davis, North Carolina.

SENATE.

A. H. Stephens,* of Georgia, President of the Senate.

Time expires.		*Time expires.*	
ALABAMA.		MISSOURI.	
Richard W. Walker	1868	Robert Y. L. Peyton	1866
ARKANSAS.		NORTH CAROLINA.	
A. P. Garland*	1868	Wm. S. Dorich	1866
R. W. Johnston	1868	SOUTH CAROLINA.	
FLORIDA.		Robert W. Barnwell	1866
A. E. Maxwell	1868	James L. Orr	1868
GEORGIA.		TENNESSEE.	
B. H. Hill	1868	Gustavus O. Henry	1866
H. V. Johnston*	1868	Louden C. Haynes	1868
KENTUCKY.		TEXAS.	
H. C. Burnett	1868	Lewis T. Wigfall	1866
LOUISIANA.		Wm. S. Oldham	1868
Thomas J. Semmes	1866	VIRGINIA.	
Edward Sparrow	1868	Wm. B. Preston	1866
MISSISSIPPI.		R. M. T. Hunter	1868
Albert G. Brown	1866		

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Dist.		*Dist.*	
	ALABAMA.		MISSOURI.
1.	Thos. W. Foster.		Election held in May last, but names not reported.
2.	William R. Smith.		NORTH CAROLINA.
3.	Williamson R. Cobb.*	1	Wm. H. N. Smith.
4.	Marcus H. Cruikshank.	2	Robert R. Bridgers.
5.	Francis S. Lyon.	3	J. T. Leach.
6.	Wm. P. Chilton.	4	Thomas C. Fuller.
7.	David Clapton.	5	Josiah Turner.
8.	James L. Pugh.	6	John A. Gilmer.
9.	J. S. Dickinson.	7	James M. Leach.
	ARKANSAS.	8	J. G. Ramsay.
1.	Felix I. Batson.	9	B. S. Gaither.
2.	Rufus K. Garland.	10	George W. Logan.
3.	Augustus H. Garland.		SOUTH CAROLINA.
4.	Thomas B. Hanley.	1	James M. Witherspoon.
	FLORIDA.	2	Wm. Porcher Miles.
1.	St. George Roberts.	3	Lewis M. Ayer.