

Franklin Repository

Wednesday January 4, 1865.

Any of our patrons having copies of the first and second numbers of THE OLD FLAG will confer a great favor upon the publishers by sending them to this office. They are wanted to complete our files. All our copies on hand of those numbers, were burned by the rebels.

UNPUNISHED HOMICIDES.

The inevitable tendency of war is to lessen sanctity for human life, and especially in civil war waged with wanton ferocity on the part of the insurgents. Not alone in the terrible sacrifices of the sanguinary field is the sad cost of war to be estimated. Its tendency is ever to demoralization; to lawlessness; to disregard of treasure; to waste of life, and to weaken the great moral sentiments on which the whole fabric of social order is reared. Against this appalling evil this journal has consistently and earnestly raised its voice. It has braved the heated prejudice of its party in denouncing violence because of real or imaginary disloyalty in our midst, and it has, with steadfast, unflinching faith in the supremacy of law, appealed to every citizen to look above the passions of the day to the common welfare of a free people.

Five years ago a murder in our midst excited the liveliest concern on the part of our entire population. However humble the victim or the criminal, the public mind was startled, and followed the often tedious course of justice with unabated interest until the majesty of the law was fully vindicated. Our court room would be crowded to overflowing when a citizen was charged with the grave crime of taking the life of one of his fellows, and had justice failed to vindicate its high prerogatives, there would have been a sad unrest deeply seated among the people, and the homicide would have escaped the penalty of the law only to suffer a popular condemnation scarcely less terrible than death. Every citizen felt that he had his full share of responsibility in maintaining the majesty of the laws, and these sacred obligations were taught on every hand as the first civil duty of the citizen.

Let us now glance for a moment at the fearful change a few years of war has wrought in our midst, and there are few dispassionate men who will not be startled at the wide-spread disregard of law that has insensibly grown up amongst us. On the second Tuesday of October, 1863, three men met death by violence in this county. An altercation in Waynesboro' resulted in the instant death of Mr. Unger at the hands of a soldier; Mr. Coble, one of the judges of election of Hamilton was shot dead the same evening when passing to his home in a peaceable manner by a soldier who fired upon one of his companions; and a soldier of the same squad was shot by accident the same night and mortally wounded. Thus the election day of 1863 gave us three violent deaths in Franklin county—two of whom were respected citizens, and the other an unoffending soldier. During the last summer a soldier was found on the premises of Mr. Gabby brutally murdered, and it is not doubted, that it was a most deliberate and atrocious murder to facilitate a robbery. But a short time ago Mr. Sweitzer, one of our most worthy citizens, was cruelly murdered near his own door; and it is only a few weeks since Lieut. Underhill, in command of this post, deliberately shot down and killed one of his own men and fired at others because they tried to get off to their quarters without arrest. In all these cases there was no punishment. Six murders, or what in times of peace and order would be held, have been committed in our county within fifteen months, and the law has in no instance vindicated its power by the punishment of the criminals. The man who killed Mr. Unger, of Waynesboro, was acquitted on technical grounds; the killing of Mr. Coble, of Hamilton, and the soldier the same night, were held to be accidental, and the author or authors were unknown; the supposed murderer of the unknown soldier found on Mr. Gabby's farm was discharged because the witnesses on the part of the prosecution could not be procured; the person who killed Mr. Sweitzer could not be identified, although we believe that an earnest effort was made to do so, and a military court of inquiry acquitted Lieut. Underhill of the murder of Mr. Redmon, and he has since been promoted by Gov. Seymour to a Captaincy and discharged from arrest.

We submit that the time has come for every citizen, and also every soldier, to set his face like flint against unpunished crime. Unless this current of murder is arrested by the people arousing to the necessity of a rigid enforcement of the laws, there will be no safety to person or property in our midst. If it be lawful for a soldier to shoot when, where and at whom a real or imaginary offence seems in his judgment to warrant, then must the innocent fall and the perpetrators go unwhipped of justice, until officers and soldiers weary of such bloody amusement. As things now stand, there is every invitation that passive submission can give to officers and soldiers to resent every wrong by the employment of their deadly weapons, and if they kill, either the innocent or those they regard as guilty, there is no redress. Military tribunals take possession of the criminals in such cases, and it would seem that if any sort of a plausible pretext can be found for acquittal, there is no punishment.

The case of Lieut. Underhill we regarded as one most clearly demanding the severest punishment; and being himself an officer of education, of respectable rank, and holding an important trust as post commander, his conviction and just sentence would have been most salutary in its influence upon the great public interests whose peril we so seriously deplore. He entered a house where some of his men were without proper leave. They, desiring to get to their quarters and avoid arrest, fled when he entered, and because they refused to stop when he ordered them to do so, he fired four times after them, two balls entered Mr. Redmon, who staggered back into the house and died with a sad message to his wife upon his lips, in presence of the author of the fatal deed. Can it be pretended that such reckless

destruction of life is justifiable or even excusable by the laws of war? If so, then had any citizen received Lieut. Underhill's balls, fired at random in the dark and in a densely populated part of the town, there could have been no punishment. If the act was lawful, its consequences could not impose a penalty. But with due deference to the members of the court of inquiry—not one of whose names have we ever heard—we insist that the act was a gross infraction of the regulations, an irreparable wrong to society and a flagrant violation of moral and civil right. He went in search of the absent men of his command without a patrol, as was his duty, and he did not seek, nor was he prepared, to arrest them, nor return them under guard. On the contrary he broke in upon them without his side-arms—the usual mark of office to command their obedience, and when they attempted to return to their camp and escape the penalty of arrest, he had no more right to fire upon them than he had to shoot at any citizen on the streets. They were not seeking to desert, nor to get away from duty; but on the contrary were, as was clearly proven on the inquiry, seeking to get to their quarters, where he could have arrested and punished them for absence without leave at his leisure; and his firing upon them and the killing of Mr. Redmon was simply a wanton, deliberate murder. There was no provocation other than that they took an irregular way to return to their quarters, just as he took an irregular way to make them do so, and he soothed the wounded pride of a little unbalanced authority in the blood of a soldier—a husband and a father. General Scott, when Commander-in-chief of the army, did not admit that even in a case of mutiny, or conduct tending to this great crime, it was justifiable for an officer to shoot down the leader or leaders, until the order for arrest has been made and failed; but a Lieutenant assumes to shoot his men down as if they were oxen because they attempt to return to their duty in an irregular way regardless of an irregular order, and Gov. Seymour signals his appreciation of his gallantry by promoting him to a captaincy.

We believe that Capt Underhill has merits as a soldier, but we cannot concede that human life shall be made the mere toy of the passions and pride of petty officials; and that lawlessness shall become rife in our midst by reason of the presence of those whose special duty it is to enforce the laws. The time has come for thorough reform in this matter, and we appeal to those holding military authority to make common cause with every good citizen to stay the appalling tide of murder that has recently stained the annals of justice in our county.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR.

The year-1864 has closed most auspiciously for the Union cause. In every quarter our armies are triumphant. General Sherman has victoriously triumphed his grand march of three hundred miles through the enemy's country, by the capture of Savannah. The fruits of this great expedition are immense. A chief city captured and with it 33,000 bales of cotton, valued at 20 odd millions of dollars, 150 guns, 13 locomotives and 190 cars. A rebel iron clad fleet with numerous other vessels destroyed in order to prevent their falling into our hands. An important point gained for future operations, either against Charleston or the interior of Georgia and the network of railroads that bind the Confederacy together. 200 miles of those railroads already damaged and destroyed to an extent that will require such an expenditure of labor and material as the rebels will scarce be able to supply. Lastly, but not least, Gen. Sherman has demonstrated what has often been asserted and stoutly denied that the Confederacy is a shell. That within all its weakness, and the only opposition to be met with, if opposition it can be called, is that offered by old men and boys, gleanings from the "cradle and the grave." Nor since his arrival at Savannah has Sherman been idle. It is said he has already moved against Augusta, an important town on the Savannah river, at the head of navigation, some 70 miles above the city of Savannah. At this place he threatens Charleston in the rear, and holds the railroad connecting it with Georgia and the Contedery West. It is also said he has organized an expedition for the release of such of our men held as prisoners in Georgia as can be reached. With Sherman the good work goes bravely on, and to him we may safely leave it.

In Tennessee the gallant Thomas is driving the enemy to the wall. Three weeks ago Hood was investing Nashville with an army of 40,000 men, with which he proudly boasted he would drive Thomas and his gallant men beyond the Ohio river, and would invade the North and spread desolation there. But man proposes and God disposes. On the 15th of last month Thomas attacked Hood in his intrenchments, and after a desperate struggle of two days, defeated and drove him in disastrous rout with the loss of sixty-eight pieces of artillery, nearly all his wagon trains, and one-third of his army killed, wounded and captured, including eighteen generals. Nor has Hood yet escaped. At the last accounts he was seeking to cross the Tennessee river, but was prevented by the depth of the water, and Thomas was rapidly closing in on him with every prospect of capturing and destroying the balance of his army. Success to which enterprise is our hearty prayer.

Within the last two weeks Breckinridge, who came to deliver East Tennessee and invade Kentucky, has been soundly whipped and driven into North Carolina with loss of artillery and many of his men. Our forces, under the command of Stone-man and Burbridge, then proceeded leisurely to destroy the salt and lead works in south-western Virginia, also all the bridges and culverts for many miles on the railroad leading to Lynchburg. Altogether, property of great value to the enemy, to the amount of \$20,000,000 was destroyed.

In Alabama the greatest consternation now prevails among the rebels. The Governor of the State has called out the militia to resist the march of Gen. David

son, who he alleges is marching on Mobile. We know that Gen. Davidson has gone on an expedition, but where we know not. We hope, however, that the Governor of Alabama is correct, and that Gen. Davidson may be enabled to emulate the munificence of Gen. Sherman and give to the Nation for a New Year's gift the city of Mobile.

The only place where success seems doubtful is at Wilmington, North Carolina. But the brave Admiral Porter still keeps pounding away, and even if his fleet should not be able to reduce the place now, Sherman will settle the question as he marches up the coast in the next few months, to join Grant. In the meantime Grant sits calmly before Petersburg holding Lee to his place with a strong hand, and waiting until he shall be joined by the new levies and the veterans of Sherman, to complete his great work and end the rebellion.

Our political sky is brightening fast. Wherever our flag is advanced its brave defenders take no step backwards. During the last year the rebels have continually lost ground. They have been driven from the banks of the Rappahannock, from the Valley of Virginia, from the States of West Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri. Sherman has marched through their Confederacy from one end to the other. With the exception of Lee's, they have no army left worthy of the name. Their chief cities are in our hands and three-fourths of their territory. Their iron-clad fleet has ceased to exist, and of all the fleet pirates that infested the seas one year ago, destroying our commerce, but one is heard of now—the Tallahassee. Their people in many parts of the Confederacy are actually suffering for the commonest necessities of life. They despair of their cause, and faint whispers of peace begin to be heard. Disaffection begins to raise its head, and soon a rebellion within a rebellion will be beheld. On the other hand, the late verdict of the people that the war must go on until the supremacy of the Government is established, has made the Government stronger than ever before, and has encouraged us and discouraged our enemies. All that we require is to persevere a little longer, to support the government cheerfully and liberally, to allow no political feeling to divide us as a people, but to unite in all things for a firm prosecution of the war. If we shall do this the next New Year may find us as we were but lately, a prosperous and powerful people.

Gov. CURTIS, on Monday week, issued his proclamation, declaring that Samuel J. Randall, Charles O'Neill, Leonard Myers, William D. Kelley, M. Russell Thayer, B. Markley Boyer, John M. Broome, Sydenham E. Ancona, Thaddeus Stevens, Myer Strouse, Philip Johnson, Charles Denison, Ulysses Monroe, George F. Miller, Adam J. Glosbrenner, Abraham A. Barker, Stephen F. Wilson, Glenn W. Scofield, Charles V. Culver, John L. Dawson, J. K. Morehead, Thomas Williams and George V. Lawrence, have been returned as duly elected to their several districts as representatives in the Congress of the United States, for the term three years, to commence from and after the fourth day of March next.

In reference to the Sixteenth District, the proclamation reads: "And I do further declare that no such returns of the election in the Sixteenth Congressional District have been sent to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, as would, under the Act of Assembly of 2d July, 1859, authorize me to proclaim the name of any person as having been duly elected a member of the House of Representatives of the United States, for that district."

The Superintendent of Public Printing represents that the interests of the Government have suffered heavily because of the exorbitant prices now asked for white paper. The tariff on imported printing paper is now twenty per cent, payable in gold, which amounts to a total prohibition of the foreign article. American paper-makers are careful to charge enough for their products to bring them just below the cost of foreign paper, with the high duty added—which is said to afford them a very heavy profit. As the Government itself is now feeling the great inconvenience and cost of a high paper market, we have hope that Congress will either reduce or abolish the paper duty, which does not bring into the treasury a cent of income, while it forces the whole printing and publishing interest of the country to submit to whatever exaction the paper-makers may see fit to impose. Our brethren of the press should enforce the importance of such action upon the attention of members of Congress and of the public.

CARELESS WRITING.—We note from the recent report of the Postmaster General, an extraordinary amount of carelessness on the part of the letter writing community. Three million five hundred and eight thousand were received of dead letters during the last year; many of which contained money, deeds, checks, jewelry and other valuables. Some of them were misdirected, others not directed at all, others unstamped and others only partially directed. Thousands of these were returned to the writers, but the great majority were destroyed. These facts should teach the public to be more careful in their correspondence; for the amount of suspense and suffering occasioned by these lost letters is incalculable, and officials are censured where the fault rests with the authors.

A PICTORIAL DOUBLE NUMBER.—The Pictorial Journal and Life Illustrated, for January, appears with 32 quarto pages, and a beautiful illustrated cover. It contains Portraits of Tompkins, Silliman, Sheridan, Cobb, Phillips, Sumner, Wesley—mother of John—an Indian Chief, Franz Muller, Miss Muggins, Miss Furry, the Princess of Wales—Florence Nightingale, A Group of Warriors—Hamilton, Julius Caesar, Pizarro, Cromwell, Charles XII, Frederick the Great, Scott, Wellington and Napoleon, with Ethnology, Phrenology, Physiognomy, Physiology, and Phytology. No. 1. Vol. 41st. Published at 20 cents a Number, or \$2.00 a year, by Messrs. Fowler & Wells, 359 Broadway, New York.

POLITICAL.—The election returns are in, as nearly complete as can be obtained. Of the vote for Presidential electors in all the States entitled to a vote, they foot up: Lincoln, 2,192,592; McClellan, 1,775,900. This makes Mr. Lincoln's majority 407,392. In 1860 the anti-Lincoln majority was 139,570.

The remains of Hon. Wm. L. Dayton, late Minister to France, arrived at New York on Friday morning. The body was laid in the Governor's room, and the obsequies took place on Saturday. The remains were taken to Trenton, N. J., on Saturday evening, and were escorted to the State house by the Governor and city authorities, where the body was laid in state, a detachment of national troops being placed as a guard of honor. The funeral will move from the State House on Thursday morning at 11 o'clock.

WASHINGTON.

The City Dull-Head Deserter.—The Rebels' Guerrilla Warfare Wounded Correspondence of the Franklin Repository.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30, 1864. Owing to the adjournment of Congress and the absence of nearly every person able to get away from the city to spend the holidays, we are having a very dull week. Washington always was a dull place during the Christmas week, and this year more so than ever. Turkey, and other things requisite to the enjoyment of Christmas, have been held at such enormous prices that many a poor family had to pass the day without even a slice of turkey, and many a child without the visit of Christ-King, as he used to come, days gone by. All, however, feel happy at the glorious victories of Sherman and Thomas, and feel confident that long before the return of another Christmas this cruel war will be over, and the good people of the loyal States will enjoy it as in former years.

Desertions from the rebel ranks are daily on the increase, and they are not, as formerly, confined to privates, but many officers now come in. Out of a hundred brought up yesterday, there was a Lieutenant named R. Redwood, of the 63d Alabama, who came into our lines bringing with him the whole squad of men under his command. Since the successful movement of Sherman into the Cotton States, many rebel soldiers from those States come in. Formerly nearly all the desertions were from Virginia and North Carolina. They are furnished transportation North after taking the oath, where they will no doubt find employment.

That ancient old foggy paper the National Intelligencer, is about to change proprietorship, Col. Sinton withdrawing, and John F. Coyle, its late business manager—Mr. A. G. Allen a well known newspaper man and Wm. R. Snow, Esq., taking charge of the establishment. It is to maintain somewhat of its former political tone, and is to have a Sunday issue, and other startling changes which heretofore has been considered among the impossible things of that establishment.

In a few days the military commission which Major General Doubleday is president, will proceed to Philadelphia for the trial of several important cases in which several prominent persons of the Quaker city are implicated.

Gen. Hancock's corps is gradually increasing its organization, and since the appointment of recruiting officers, is meeting the most sanguine expectations. Commissions are given only to those nominated by the Governors of their respective States. No appointments have yet been made for Pennsylvania or Massachusetts, as the Governors of those two States for some reason or other unknown to the outside world, decline taking notice of the corps. Should they delay much longer, the opportunity now offered will be withdrawn, and other States will be permitted to monopolize the appointments. The first regiment of the corps organized is to be armed with Sharp's rifles.

The agricultural statistical report of the Census Bureau, the most voluminous and valuable document of the kind ever published is in the hands of the public printer and should have been completed by the first of January, but owing to the immense amount of work at the office it is thought that it will not be out before the first of April.

Moebey, the notorious guerrilla, was mortally wounded at Middleburg, Va., on the 17th of December in a fight with detachments of the 12th and 16th New York and 8th Illinois Cavalry.

PERSONAL.

Gen. John Pope has gone to the Army of the Potomac.

The pirate Semmes has reached Richmond via Matamoras.

James W. Wallack, Sr., the actor, died in New York on Christmas day.

Arcell, the gallant cavalry general, is still in Philadelphia.

Senator Cooness, of California, is a piano forte manufacturer.

Col. Haunin, son of the Vice President, has been elected a member of the House of Representatives.

William Curtis Noyes, L. D., a prominent member of the bar of New York, died on Sunday week.

Mr. Jerome D. Brumbaugh, formerly of Hagerstown, has been elected Attorney General of the State of Kansas.

Major General Ord has assumed command of the Twenty-fourth Army Corps, now a part of the Army of the James.

Hon. J. S. Haldean has been elected, unanimously, President of the Harrisburg National Bank, in place of Wm. M. Kerr, Esq., deceased.

Gen. Wayne, who commands one of the bodies of rebels in Georgia, is said to be a son of Judge Wayne, of the United States Supreme Court.

The College of New Jersey has conferred the degree of LL. D. upon Mr. Lincoln. This from a New Jersey institution may be considered rather generous.

W. M. Stewart, one of the new U. S. Senators from Nevada, is a son-in-law of Ex-Governor Foot, of the rebel Congress. Mr. S., however, is a strong Union man.

Hon. James Dixon, United States Senator from Connecticut, suffers so badly from heart disease that the Connecticut papers predict his speedy resignation.

Thomas Sims, the fugitive slave whose arrest caused such a great excitement in Boston, some years since, is now a recruiting agent for the Union Army in Louisville, Ky.

The prominent candidate for the vacant Ministry to France are John C. Fremont, Henry Winter Davis, Charles Sumner, Montgomery Blair, John P. Hale and W. P. Fessenden.

It is stated that the prize money standing to the credit of Admiral Lee, Farragut, Dahlgren, Hopy and Porter amounts to the handsome aggregate of three millions and a quarter.

Mrs. Hutchins, of Baltimore, imprisoned for sending a sword to Harry Gilmore, the rebel raider, has been released by the President from the Fitchburg (Mass.) House of Correction.

John Steel, the wealthiest man in Pennsylvania, made so by oil transactions, (his receipts were \$3000 per day) died, a few days ago, in Philadelphia, from injuries received from the kick of a horse.

When General Thomas was a cadet at West Point, he was called "Old Tom," on account of his sedateness. He was a methodical boy, and as a man is so strongly-minded that in the army he is known as "Obstinate Tom."

It is reported that Major General Joseph Hooker, at present commanding the Northern Department, is to be married in the spring to an accomplished lady resident within his military command.

General Tom Thumb, wife, baby and the diminutive gentleman's suite were guests of the Emperor of France at Compeigne on the 7th inst. The official journals quote the reception of the little General at the Marlboro House by his royal highness, the Prince of Wales, as a precedent.

Gen. Thomas has two men in his employ who serve as scouts and spies at the imminent hazard of their lives. The rebel Gen. Johnson offered a reward of \$50,000 for their capture. They have been much within the rebel lines, and often in their very camp, but so disguised as to defy detection.

—Brigadier General O. B. Wilcox, commanding the First Division of the Ninth Army Corps, has been breveted Major General, to date from the 1st of last August. General Wilcox entered the war as Colonel of the First Michigan Volunteers. He is a gallant and capable officer.

—Major Harry White, of the 67th P. V., late member of the Pennsylvania State Senate, and whose absence last winter, being a prisoner at Richmond, caused a long delay in organizing that corps, has been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel of his regiment.

—The President has remitted the sentence of Commodore Wilkes, who was sentenced to a suspension from the service for three years, on account of having captured Mason and Ellsall on board the British steamer. His sentence has been so modified as to make his suspension continue only for a period of one year from date.

—Hon. David Sherman Boardman, since the death of Father Waldo the oldest graduate of Yale College, died recently at New Milford, Conn. He was born in December, 1768, graduated at Yale College in 1793, was admitted to the bar in 1795, and speedily took rank among the foremost lawyers of his State. His recollection of events in Revolutionary times was exceedingly distinct and accurate.

—Col. Charles A. May, a prominent officer, who was for a number of years stationed at Carlisle, died in New York, on Saturday last. He served in the army until 1860. His exploits during the Mexican war, particularly at Resaca de la Palma and Monterey, made his name famous. Since the outbreak of the war he has been engaged in civic pursuits in New York city, where he had married a daughter of George Law, Esq. He was a native of Baltimore and was forty-six years of age.

—The death of a celebrity, a dwarf, in Paris, the French counterpart of the American Tom Thumb, is recorded. In his sixteenth year he was placed in the establishment of the Duchess of Orleans, the mother of the Citizen King, and was so small at that age that he passed for an infant, and so dressed, during the stormy period of the First Revolution, secret dispatches were sent to him, which thus reached without suspicion the imprisoned members of the Royal Family of France. To the day of his death this dwarf, named Richebourg, received a pension from the Orleans family of 3,000 francs a year. During the last thirty years he has lived in the same house, in the Faubourg Saint Germain. Unlike Tom Thumb, he had a horror of appearing in public, and for nearly half a lifetime had never crossed the threshold of his own door. Not the least remarkable feature in the career of this creature is the fact that he lived to be 92 years old.

—We are called upon to record the death of Hon. George Mifflin Dallas, which event took place in Philadelphia on Saturday morning, at his residence, on Walnut street, below Tenth. The event was entirely unexpected, as the distinguished gentleman was apparently enjoying his usual health the day previous to his decease. Mr. Dallas was seventy-two years of age, having been born in that city on the 10th of July, 1792. He graduated at Princeton College in 1810, and studied law under the direction of his father, Alexander James Dallas, and was admitted to the Bar in April, 1813. He was shortly afterwards appointed Private Secretary to Albert Gallatin, who was sent to St. Petersburg on a special mission relating to the treaty between Great Britain and the United States, and which subsequently resulted in the treaty of Ghent, December 24th, 1814, which ended the war to the satisfaction of both parties.

Mr. Dallas resided at "Ghent" some time after the treaty, and was subsequently sent home by the American Commissioners as a bearer of important dispatches. He was afterwards connected with the Treasury Department, and then resumed the practice of his profession in Philadelphia. In 1817, he received the appointment of Attorney General of Philadelphia. In 1828 he was elected Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, which office he resigned to accept the appointment of United States District Attorney. He retired from the position to accept a vacancy, to which he had been elected in the United States Senate in 1831, which he held until the expiration of the term in 1833. He advocated as United States Senator the charter of the United States Bank, a protective tariff, and other important measures. Martin Van Buren, after his elevation to the Presidency in 1837, appointed Mr. Dallas, Minister to Russia, which position he filled with much ability until 1839, when he was recalled at his own request, and again resumed the practice of his profession in Philadelphia. In May, 1844, Mr. Dallas was nominated for the exalted position of Vice President of the United States by the Baltimore Convention, which nominated James K. Polk for President. After an exciting Presidential campaign, Mr. Dallas was elected Vice President, having received one hundred and seventy out of two hundred and seventy-five electoral votes cast. As Vice President, and consequently President of the Senate, Mr. Dallas gave his celebrated casting vote in favor of the famous Tariff Bill, a free trade measure. Mr. Dallas occupied the position of Vice President until March 4th, 1749. On January 31st, 1856, Mr. Dallas was renominated to the United States Senate as Minister to the Court of St. James, on Mr. Buchanan signifying his desire to be recalled from that position. The nomination was confirmed, and Mr. Dallas represented the United States at that Court with credit to himself and satisfaction to the country. After the election of Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Dallas, in a speech in this city, proclaimed his unaltered attachment to the Union and detestation of the Rebellion. Mr. Dallas was a lawyer of great ability, and in all the important positions he filled under the National Government, he displayed marked statesmanship and diplomatic skill.

SUMMARY OF WAR NEWS.

—The President says Sherman's Christmas present is worth eighteen million of dollars. This is just a month's supply for our manufactures.

—Three of the St. Albans raiders, who escaped to Lebanon, N. H., and enlisted in the United States Army, have been arrested and are now in the jail at Concord.

—Admiral Lee destroyed a fort at Chickasaw, Ala., on the 27th, destroying much rebel property and all means of crossing the Tennessee, below Florence. Hood's army is reported to be broken up.

—Burbridge is retiring successfully to Lexington, Ky., from south-western Virginia, having driven Breckinridge to North Carolina and destroyed the rebel department of south-western Virginia. He also destroyed the railroad there, and lead and salt-works.

—We learn from New-Orleans that Gen. Davidson's raiding expedition had returned to that place. They traveled 100 miles in 15 days, built 15 bridges and many miles of railroad, and destroyed enormous quantities of property. The raid was one of the most brilliant of the war.

—A notorious Missouri guerrilla, named Hunter, recently arrested at Salt Lake City, while en route for California, with \$200,000 in greenbacks stolen from the bank at Bloomington over a year ago. He was sent back by General Connor, and will be taken to Huntsville in that State and hanged.

—Nearly all the steamers comprising the portion of the expeditionary fleet under the command of Major Gen. Butler, which sailed from Fortress Monroe, several weeks since, have returned in safety, notwithstanding the severe storms experienced along the coast, and while anchored off Wilmington, N. C.

—When Sherman made his advance upon Fort McAllister, the rebels burned a bridge, eight hundred feet long, to prevent his approach. In one night the bridge was reconstructed by Sherman's engineers, and the fort was secured. This shows how complete all his arrangements are for accomplishing his work successfully.

—General Thomas was pressing Hood on the banks of the Tennessee river on Wednesday. Hood was trying to lay his pontoons, but our gunboats were shelling his working parties. Steadman reached Decatur on the 24th. On Thursday, it was rumored at Nashville that Hood had been routed and most of his army captured.

—On Tuesday night week a party of Rebels, who had been for some time in Maryland, and were prevented from returning to Virginia by reason of the high water, constructed a raft upon which they attempted to cross the Potomac a short distance above Muddy Branch. Our pickets captured one and fired upon five others, who fell from the raft and were drowned.

—Hon. Frank P. Blair has gone to Richmond, probably accompanied by his son, Montgomery Blair. Government has not authorized the visit, or is it aware that it is made for any purpose other than the gratification of private curiosity. No pass was given them by the Secretary of War, who protests against their going. They are probably hopes of being able to start some empuiric.

—Another expedition against Mobile has started. General Granger, with a considerable force, landed at Pascagoula on the 15th instant, and moved rapidly towards Mobile. Near Franklin creek a skirmish occurred, but the rebels were routed. Two iron-clad gunboats have gone up the Pascagoula river, and at last accounts everything was progressing favorably. In Mobile, there is said to be 5,000 militia, and a strong Union sentiment prevails.

—There yet languish in rebel slaughter pens of the Andersonville pattern fifty thousand of our northern soldiers. Of the one hundred thousand rebel prisoners in comfortable and well warmed barracks, those at Elmira receive ten cents a day for their labor in making their quarters more healthful and comfortable. Those at Point Lookout receive for similar labor whiskey and tobacco rations. To all, everywhere, vegetables are regularly issued, and to most blankets have been given.

—General Stone-man has returned to Nashville from a wonderfully successful raid into south-western Virginia. He routed Jones, with a part of Morgan's force, and Vaughn, who was trying to join Breckinridge. At Marion he whipped several commands. He took valuable rebel salt works; 860 men; destroyed bridges and captured railway trains, together with several depots; supplies, foundries, mills, factories and store-houses; besides, two rebel editors, and a supply of printing material, which was sent to Porter Brownlow. Our loss was about 200. East Tennessee is swept clean, and Kentucky made safe.

—Porter's fleet made a furious attack on Fort Fisher, at Wilmington, about one o'clock on Saturday week and kept up an average fire of about thirty shots per minute until night. The attack was renewed on Sunday morning, and was very furious. The rebels replied very slowly. The rebel detachments, from which our information comes, say that two brigades were landed two and a half miles above Fort Fisher. They were immediately engaged by a small force, but held their ground. A subsequent dispatch says that this force attacked the fort on Sunday night, and was repulsed. The rebel loss on Saturday is reported as twenty-three wounded.

—Of the capture of Savannah we have some further particulars by the dispatch-boat California, at Fortress Monroe. On the 20th General Sherman, having nearly completed the investment of the city, and captured Fort Lee and several other works in the immediate vicinity of the principal intrenchments surrounding the town, and planting his siege batteries in such close proximity to the rebel lines as to command effectually every position held by Hardee's forces, notified the rebel commander that if the place was not surrendered by a specified time a bombardment would commence. Hardee replied that he had ample provisions to stand a long siege, and that he would defend the place. Sherman then made preparations for an assault, but at daylight on the 21st it was ascertained that the enemy had evacuated their intrenchments. General Sherman entered the city at the head of his bodyguard, and received its surrender from a deputation of the citizens. Hardee's army crossed the Savannah river over a causeway, under the protection of two iron-clad rams. The latter were sunk, but four steamers and a gunboat were captured.

THE SURRENDER OF SAVANNAH.

By the arrival of the steamer California, at Fortress Monroe, we have the following particulars of the surrender of Savannah:

On the 20th instant, Maj. Gen. Sherman, having nearly completed the investment of the city, and captured Fort Lee and several other works in the immediate vicinity of the principal intrenchments surrounding the town, and planting his siege batteries in such close proximity to the rebel lines as to command effectually every position held by Hardee's forces, notified the rebel commander that if the place was not surrendered by a specified time a bombardment would commence. Hardee replied that he had ample provisions to stand a long siege, and that he would defend the place. Sherman then made preparations for an assault, but at daylight on the 21st it was ascertained that the enemy had evacuated their intrenchments. General Sherman entered the city at the head of his bodyguard, and received its surrender from a deputation of the citizens. Hardee's army crossed the Savannah river over a causeway, under the protection of two iron-clad rams. The latter were sunk, but four steamers and a gunboat were captured.

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