

MEXICO.

Departure of French Troops.

NEW ORLEANS, January 24. The steamship Victor arrived this morning from Vera Cruz on the 19th inst. She brought the remains of Ex-Governor Allen, of this State.

The French transports had arrived and were expected to depart in a few days with the French troops. A regiment of Egyptians had left on the French mail steamer a few days before.

Maximilian issued another proclamation, condemning in the strongest terms the conduct of General Sedgwick in taking possession of Matamoros. Both the French and Mexican flags were over the fort and Custom House at Vera Cruz.

The liberals are camped within twelve miles of Vera Cruz. No hostilities had taken place up to the departure of the Victor. A train with \$2,000,000 had arrived for either the French or Maximilian.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 24.—Columbia advices by the Constellation to January the 12th, are received. The city is still in possession of the Imperialists.

Escobedo left Monterey for the interior on the 17th inst. He is at the head of the largest Liberal army ever got together.

Berriozabal succeeded in raising several thousand dollars from merchants of Matamoros, and sent money, &c., to Carilda on the 12th inst., with orders to proceed at once to Victoria. Cortina, who is recruiting and arming all the rancheros, is still in the vicinity of Matamoros.

Benito Juarez arrived at Durango on the 26th ult. A fine of \$240,000 was imposed on and between three citizens, and a monthly prestamo of \$50,000 upon the city, to replenish his treasury.

Preparations were making at San Luis Potosi for the reception of Juarez, who it is said, will establish the seat of his Government in that city.

The negro patriot "Garb," at Downsville, killed a citizen and a policeman on the evening of the 16th inst.

Supreme Court and Military Commissions.

The decision of the Supreme Court on the Constitutionality of Military Commissions, occasions, as might be expected, considerable anxiety among those officers who, during the rebellion, were members of such Commissions. If, as is alleged, the decision can be applied to make them responsible for their action in such cases, their position is by no means a pleasant one.

The anxiety is felt on this subject is attested by an authority that should be well informed on the premises, the Army and Navy Journal, which also suggests some of the difficulties that might be encountered by officers involved in prosecutions of the sort referred to, and expresses the opinion that Congress should promptly devise a remedy for the case, that will secure to officers relief and indemnity.

It is a practical measure, we would put forth the suggestion that Congress should immediately vindicate the national authority wherever it has been properly exercised by our soldiers and sailors; and at the same time that it should give the latter the means of removing the revengeful suits commenced against them, from the State to the United States Courts.

This latter result could be accomplished by passing a law that wherever a prosecution for assault and battery, &c., shall be commenced in a State Court, then, upon the certificate of any United States Commissioner that the act complained of took place during the late rebellion, while the defendant was clothed with military authority, the suit may be removed at the defendant's option to the United States Courts.

It can scarcely be thought the cases contemplated in these sentences should ever be the subject of such formal review and award by civil courts. But if they are it is of course proper that they should not be submitted to State Courts at the will of the prosecutor, for that would be to ensure unjust decisions, made under the instigation of rebel prejudices against loyal men.

These things, then, remain for Congress to accomplish by legislation. To vindicate the national jurisdiction derived from military authority, now questioned by the courts; to provide for the trial of these cases in the United States Courts; and to arrange pecuniary indemnities in case the decisions shall rightfully be adverse to the officers. This action will ward off any hurtful consequences of those praise worthy acts of military authority which resulted from the state of war.

That the men who have faithfully performed their duty to the Union, in military commissions or in any other way, should now be subjected to vexatious and revengeful prosecution by malignant rebels, appears to be such a monstrous proposition, that it requires a very strong argument or a weak mind to give it credence as correct. It involves the President of the United States, and all who assisted in any military trial conducted with the sanction of Mr. Lincoln.

It subjects them to pains and penalties for doing what the country and the world believed to be right. We are persuaded that justice and right do not place men in such a position, and that the people of the United States do not wish, and will not permit their true and loyal men to suffer penalties for being true and loyal.

The American Citizen.



The Largest Circulation of any Paper in the County.

C. E. ANDERSON, Editor. BUTLER PA. WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30, 1867.

Storm Stayed.

For several days past it has been almost impossible to travel, on account of the depth of the snow. In almost every part of the country at certain points the roads are completely blocked up with vast bodies of drifted snow, to such an extent that people are generally compelled to remain at home.

Resolutions of the Union National Committee.

The Union National Committee held a meeting at Washington City on the 18th inst., for the purpose of consulting as to the best means of effecting such a thorough organization of the true Union men of the country as will give to the loyal sentiment everywhere, its due influence in the work of restoring the late rebellious States to the Union.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be directed and authorized to make a thorough organization for the future to confirm the success of the past, and to secure the fruits of our fairly won triumphs, and for that purpose they may establish their headquarters in the city of New York, appoint a Secretary and such assistants as they may deem proper, and take such other measures as may be necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Resolved, That members of the Union party in every part of the country be requested to correspond with this Committee by addressing its Chairman at the headquarters of said Committee, giving information as to the state of affairs in their several localities, with the general condition and requirements of the Union cause.

Resolved, That the Union National Committee congratulate the people of Nebraska and Colorado on their admission by Congress into the Union as States, and they would respectfully express to the Legislatures of those States their confident hope and earnest desire that the acts of admission by Congress may be promptly accepted by them, placing themselves thereby on the true ground of the Declaration of Independence.

Resolved, That this Committee congratulate the country on the steady growth and progress of National and patriotic sentiments throughout the Union, evidenced in our last State elections, and look with confidence to the Union party and especially in the so called seceded States.

Resolved, That anxiously desiring that the States lately in revolt shall be restored to their forfeited position in the Union and to representation in Congress at the earliest day consistent with national integrity and national security, and disclaiming all impulses of vengeance or resentment, we would respectfully submit to Congress and the country this avowal of our earnest conviction that no reconstruction can be safe or just which does not secure impartial suffrage to all loyal people of those States.

Communications.

The U. P. Presbytery of Butler, met in Butler on the 15th inst. The opening sermon was preached by S. Kerr, on the subject of intercommunion. Delegates were chosen to attend the General Assembly.

Mr. Editor:—In the Citizen of last week I noticed an article headed, "An Immoral Business." This phrase, if nothing more had been said, would be sufficient to indicate and point out the matter referred to.

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finely under the supervision of a competent corps of teachers. We have also an academy, which, I think, offers superior inducements for mental and moral training, and all who are thirsting after intellectual attainments are respectfully invited to come and quench their thirst at this fountain of knowledge.

I suppose I will have to follow suit and say something about railroads. I will only remark that if we have none, we have plenty of rails and roads, and are well supplied with timber and territory to make more when needed; and those are as essential to the prosperity of the country as the iron horse.

Our oil territory has never been tested, or rather our territory has never been tested for oil, and who knows that it does not exist here in abundance—only awaiting development to enrich the populace.

In conclusion, I would say, that we claim to be social beings, designed to be such by the Creator, and I think an exchange of sentiment beneficial. So hoping to hear from other townships, I will say adieu.

A Highly Important Financial Measure Reported. WASHINGTON, January 18.—The bill reported to the House to-day, by Mr. Randall provides that after its passage it shall be unlawful to issue any money notes or bills not authorized by Congress; that the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to issue not exceeding three hundred millions in United States notes, bearing interest of such denominations as he may deem expedient, not less than five dollars; each of which shall be lawful money and legal tender; said notes to be used only in exchange for national bank issues, and for the purchase of such amount of United States bonds as may be necessary to carry out the true intent of this act.

The bill introduced into the House of Representatives by Mr. Randall of Philadelphia, (of which we gave a synopsis some days ago,) to gradually supersede the National Bank currency by an additional issue of legal tender notes, is attracting increased attention in Congress and in financial circles. The committee to which it was referred have reported favorably upon it, and the closer it is examined the more it will grow in esteem.

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saving of interest by the government, and a necessity laid on stockholders in the national banks to invest a portion, at least of their capital, in some other form. Will this change in the form of investment create an unfavorable disturbance of the money market? It would seem that the natural effect must be to make money more abundant. The bankers who should receive greenbacks in exchange for their bonds, would not be likely to let them remain unemployed.

The bankers are naturally opposed to the contemplated change. We do not blame them. Any other body of men, situated as they are, would object to being interfered with as strenuously as they do.

In financial circles in New York the measure is said to meet with disapprobation. This ought to be far enough, in itself, from determining the matter.

Still, we trust Congress will act circumspectly in this matter. So far as the government is concerned the advantages of the proposition are palpable enough.

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NEWS ITEMS.

The greatest number of Odd Fellows are in Pennsylvania.

Forty years ago there was not a single locomotive in Europe.

The New York dry goods clerks are watched by a detective force.

Swiss citizens are to be prevented from joining the army of the Pope.

The German Emigrant Society has just issued its annual report, from which it appears that of the 233,717 emigrants at New York, during the year 1866, 82,894 were Germans, most of whom left for the Western States.

The object of General Thomas's visit to Washington is said to testify in relation to matters connected with the Southern Railroad.

There are in the District of Columbia, Alexandria, Fairfax county, Virginia, and five counties in Maryland, one hundred and fifty-six freedmen's day and night schools; one hundred and forty-two teachers, and six thousand and twenty-nine scholars.

Some of the boys at Russian public schools at Moscow, Petersburg, Kiev and Kasan have sent Count Bismarck a warm letter of thanks for having so greatly facilitated the study of the most difficult part of European geography—namely, the political geography of Germany!

A St. Joe, Mo., distiller mourns over the degeneracy of the race, because he has had to pay \$16,800 revenue tax on the whisky manufactured by him during the month of November, 1866.

William Cooke, of Milesburg, Clearfield county, last week shot three young men who, with three others, had dragged him from a house, where he was visiting some female friends, with the intent of ducking him in the canal.

The agricultural papers are recommending the shooting of animals, especially hogs, instead of sticking them. A pistol carrying a ball as large as a pea will suffice for the work.

Mr. Cullen, a Senator from Rush county, Indiana, has introduced a bill into the Legislature of that State, for the purpose of depriving habitual drunkards of the control of their estates.

The GENERAL ARMING OF EUROPE. A letter by the latest issue says—While the Italian army is to be reduced and organized on a more economical basis, other nations appear to be preparing for war, rather than entering upon a period of peace.

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