

### The New Bounty Law.

A general bounty law has passed both branches of the legislature, but in some non-essential details the two Houses did not agree, and a committee of conference has reconciled the differences. The report of the committee will certainly be agreed to in both branches, if it has not already been done, and the various districts of the State will very properly be brought under a uniform law regulating the assessment of taxes and the payment of bounties.

The new bill provides that the school directors, or other local authorities of any township, ward or borough shall be authorized to pay a bounty not exceeding four hundred dollars to all men enlisted under the pending call, or any future call, and the tax for the same shall be levied in accordance with the provisions of the act of last year, with this exception—that all persons subject to draft shall pay, in addition to their tax on property, a per capita tax of twenty dollars, and all aliens between the ages of twenty and forty-five pay the same. The provisions of the old law prohibiting the collection of more than two per cent. per annum on the taxable valuation of property for bounty purposes remain. The per capita tax will very materially lessen the burden of bounty debts upon property, and very justly.

The law also provides that a bounty not exceeding four hundred dollars may be paid to drafted men, or to their families in such sums and at such times as the local authorities may determine. By this provision the families of drafted men can be cared for by the School Directors out of the bounty funds due to their husbands or brothers on whom they are dependent, and dissolute or profligate men can be restrained from squandering the money due to their wives or children.

As the law merely confers the authority upon the township, ward and borough authorities to pay bounties, the matter rests wholly with the people themselves. The law is not mandatory, and any township may decline to pay bounties either to volunteers or drafted men, or they may pay any sum from \$100 to \$400, but they cannot exceed \$400. Under the amended conscription law men were credited to the districts in which they are enrolled and competition in bounties has therefore ceased. Each district can provide such bounty for its own citizens, both volunteers and drafted men, as they may deem just to themselves and to the soldiers; and they can now also apply the same rule to volunteers, relating to the payment of the bounty, that the general law applies to drafted men. As volunteers cannot enlist elsewhere than in their own districts, the school directors of each locality should, as a matter of justice to the families of the soldiers, reserve the whole or a part of the bounty to be applied to families where destitution is probable to follow the absence of the husband. It has been uncommon hitherto for men to volunteer, receive large bounties and squander their money before they entered the service, leaving families behind to be a charge on the charity of the citizens. Under former laws the local authorities could not control bounties to volunteers, as they could be credited wherever the terms suited them best; but under existing laws, both State and National, the control of the whole matter is in the authorities of the districts, and they can pay what sum they choose to whom they choose—either wife or husband—and at such times as they choose.

Bounty taxes have grown to be most oppressive owing to the competition heretofore created by the discretion given to volunteers to be credited where they preferred; but we trust that the people will not withhold what is just to either volunteers or conscripts now that the discretion is on the other side. Under the laws and orders as they now are, townships may issue their bonds to volunteers or drafted men, payable at such times as they may prefer, and they can hold them for the use and benefit of families either wholly or in part, and thus make the bounty what it should be—a fund for the support of those who may be dependent on the soldier. In this way excessive taxation and the necessity of raising vast sums of money at once is avoided, and the want that has been so widely prevalent among the families of soldiers will be henceforth unknown. Let the districts act promptly and ever generously, after considering what is due to the gallant defenders of the Republic, and what is due to themselves as taxpayers; but let all doubts be resolved in favor of the soldier.

Hon. George Darrie died in Allegheny county on Friday week, aged 65 years. Mr. Darrie was for some years State Senator, at a later period of his life was Canal Commissioner, and afterwards represented that district in Congress.

Freeman Clark has been appointed by the President, Comptroller of the Currency, in place of Hon. Hugh M'Callagh, appointed Secretary of the Treasury.

Elmira, Lockport, Rochester, Oswego, and Utica, New York elected the Republican ticket at the charter election held on Tuesday last.

A Good Excuse.—A soldier of Sherman's army, accused of raiding privately on the enemy, pleaded in justification that he lived so constantly on turkey on the march that he couldn't help becoming a gobbler.

It is said that ten regiments have been recruited from among the contractors who joined Sherman in his recent march through Georgia, and further large additions are expected to this force from his present campaign.

### The Campaign in North Carolina.

On the authority of our own correspondent writing March 10 from Gen. Cox's headquarters near Kingston, we know that Bragg has met with a repulse instead of a victory on the battle field of which he boasted. The defeat which the Rebels sustained was on the day following that on which Bragg claimed a victory, and we are in possession only of a few details in the letter of our correspondent of the first day's action. The column from Newbern under Gen. Cox's command, had advanced by the 9th of March to within four miles of Kingston without opposition. On the 6th the head of that column was attacked by the united forces of Hill, Hoke, and Bragg, and being heavily outnumbered, sustained a defeat in which we lost two regiments. On the following day the action was renewed, and the enemy strangely, but we suppose truly, reported to have been reinforced by S. D. Lee's corps, from Hood's army. Their assault was nevertheless repulsed, and they were at the same time attacked in flank and routed with loss. A second assault left them still worse off, and they retreated in confusion, leaving their dead and wounded in our hands. Whether the two regiments taken the day before were recovered we do not know. It may be that Gen. Cox, finding so heavy a force in front of him, will delay his movement on Goldsborough, but if Bragg holds his ground where will he go when Sherman has taken Raleigh?

The actual position of Gen. Sherman is still matter of conjecture to some extent, but there can of course be no doubt of the fact, as stated by our correspondent, that he is well across the North Carolina line, and steadily advancing northward. The Rebels of course know this fact, and know something of Sherman's line of advance, but they choose to conceal it, because they can say nothing that does not reveal their weakness and his strength. The cavalry skirmish between Gens. Kilpatrick and Hampton would have been very differently reported if the latter had met with any good fortune.

Sheridan's dispatch is probably the most important which that officer ever penned, for it announced at this critical moment that north of the James River there is no longer any communication, whether by rail or canal, between Lynchburg and Richmond. The railroad is destroyed from Charlottesville to within twenty miles of Lynchburg, including many bridges, some of them more than five hundred feet long. The canal is broken up at intervals west of Columbia to Lynchburg, the locks being destroyed, and at New Canton the great guard lock is broken away, and the mighty current of the James itself pours into the narrow bed of the canal, and sweeps its banks away in a continuous overflow impossible to be checked. And it is this canal which Sheridan says has been the "great feeder" of Richmond. West of the Rivanna river Sheridan found himself in a country abounding in supplies, and he has cleaned it from one end to the other of mills, factories, stores, provisions—everything that made it valuable to the Rebellion.

Lee has not so much as attempted to stop Sheridan's destructive course. Between Grant who keeps his hold relentlessly on Richmond, and Sherman whose advance upon the doomed capital nothing can avert, the Rebel General in Chief has found no leisure to bestow on the swift movement of Sheridan—still less has he been able to spare troops to resist the columns which spread devastation through the valley of the James. More than ever before it begins to be apparent how over-whelmingly the Rebel army are outnumbered, and how helplessly Lee must submit to see himself either shut up, or driven from his capital. If he cannot save his railroads he cannot save anything—He holds now one road to Lynchburg and one to Danville, but a single blow may sunder both of them, nor does Lee know that Sheridan may not at any moment deliver that blow. Sheridan's present success and his present position show that he may attempt almost anything, and that unless he attacks Lynchburg itself he may ride the country through without meeting an enemy in arms.—Tribune Mar. 14.

### THE CRACKS IN THE SHELL.

We are getting every day, as our armies advance and open new cracks into the empty shell, as General Grant described the Confederacy, new glimpses of its utter hollowness. Sherman rides everywhere inside of it without meeting any other opposition than the phantom horsemen of Wheeler or Hampton, who whip Kilpatrick three times a day, on an average, but find him alive and kicking the next morning with all his usual vigor. Kilpatrick, indeed must be a descendant of those fabulous heroes of the old Norsemen's mythology, who were cut to pieces in battle every day, but renewed themselves by drinking mead in the night time, and were ready for other fights in the morning. Sheridan, to having been annihilated by Early in several engagements, has made an almost unobstructed path to within twenty miles of Richmond, about which he "hangs like a teatip." Schofield, on the other side, has encountered some resistance—his pickets were captured, and the event proclaimed as a signal victory—but he is none the less steadily pushing Bragg back to the intrenchments of Goldsboro, if not to the very walls of Richmond.

All this while we know that Lee commands a veteran and disciplined army, the numbers of which have been variously estimated from sixty to an hundred thousand men. Why does he not send powerful detachments of it to the aid of his lieutenant? Why does he allow

Early to be wiped out to the Valley? Why does he allow Sherman to march unopposed, hundreds of miles through the very heart of the rebel districts, laying the cities and towns under tribute, and supporting his entire force from the country? Why did he not support Bragg in the late conflicts, with an overpowering reinforcement?

There are those who yet profess to have hopes of the confederacy—their wishes, perhaps, being father to their thoughts—and argue that Lee is still pursuing the policy of concentration, calling in all his outlying forces to combine them in a single mighty and irresistible assault either upon Grant or upon Sherman, or upon one after the other. He only hides his true, like a prudent general. But this theory, in our view, is wholly untenable. Lee is no longer acting from policy, but from absolute necessity. Grant has drawn the cords so tight about his limbs that it is impossible for him to move otherwise than under constraint. If he had departed from Richmond, if he had sent away any considerable force under Johnson or Bragg, he knew better than any other man that Grant would at once establish himself on the flank, and never allow it to return.

He knew, too, that supposing Grant out of the way, or stuck in the mud so fast as to be unable to lift a foot; his whole army was scarcely a match for Sherman's army. The latter probably equals him in numbers; it is flushed by a continuous series of unparalleled triumphs it has become a historical grandeur, and every man in it feels that he, like his immortal commander, is invincible. Not double the number of ordinary troops could stand before a body of men, so sustained and invigorated by its consciousness of glory, without bending or yielding to its impulsive power. The single weakness in Sherman's position has been his want of a line of communications, but now that he has procured this by means of the river from Wilmington to Fayetteville, he may well say, "All right and marching on." He is marching on, in spite of all that Lee can do, and he will march to Raleigh first, where he will bring North Carolina, long yearning for it, into the old track of peaceful and harmonious unity, and to Richmond next, where Mr. Jefferson Davis and his accomplices, if they remain, will receive the reward due to their infamous and sanguinary career.

### The Last Ditch.

We should not be surprised if when Richmond had fallen, and the discomfited leaders of the insurrection had been driven from every city and almost every house in the South, they might still find one safe place of retreat. It is in the state of New Jersey, and among the members of its legislature, whose devotion to the rebellion seems to be as ardent as that of any journalist at Richmond, and whose hatred of the loyal army as malignant as that of any bushwhacker of the Valley.

This New Jersey legislature has recently distinguished itself by voting against the amendment of the constitution which proposes to remove from the statute books the odious cause of this bloody civil war. It has had the proud satisfaction also, recently, of voting against an act to give the right of suffrage to the brave Jersey men in the field, who are exposing life and limb in defence of the constitution and the government. But the degrading littleness of its spirit was, perhaps, most strikingly exhibited the other day, when a bill was before the assembly to incorporate an association in Sussex county, for raising a monument to those natives of the county who had fallen in the military service, engaged "in the suppression of the present unholy rebellion."

As soon as the preamble was read, a Mr. Liff jumped up and moved that the word "unholy" be stricken out, and his democratic friends carried the amendment. It was then moved, successively by loyal members to insert "wicked and causeless," "causeless" alone, and finally so mild a term as "unjustifiable," but the same majority, by a solid vote, refused to condemn the rebellion in even that milk and water way. At length one of their own number moved to insert the word "righteous," which unquestionably expressed their real feelings, but not enough of them were sufficiently bold to declare them openly, and so, with the aid of the Union votes, "righteous" was also rejected. Yet they had deliberately declared that the rebellion was neither unholy nor wicked, nor causeless, nor unjustifiable, and only the fear of political consequences preventing them from declaring that it was righteous.

### British Torpedoes.

The British "Army and Navy Gazette" incautiously reveals a secret which was scarcely suspected in the loyal States of the Union. It says that "The Confederate Government has countermanded large orders for torpedoes" in England. So then, we are indebted to the unscrupulous neutrality of our cousins across the water for these ingeniously devilish machines—an innovation upon the modes of conducting warfare which, however justifiable they may be to the minds of military men, cannot be regarded by ordinary persons as contrivances which only denote malignant malice would employ. It has been given out heretofore that these instruments of destruction were fabricated in the South, and the skill with which they were constructed was matter which called for the praise of sympathizers with the secession, as furnishing proof of the mechanical abilities of the Southern workmen. And yet they have been manufactured in England, and were imported in blockade runners, with Blakely guns, marked with the broad arrow, musket-

ball, gunpowder, and other things intended to help the harvest of blood. We shall assuredly note the fact in this country, and keep it in remembrance. The neutrality of England is an estimable thing. It has kept the Rebellion alive, furnishing it with privateers to assail our commerce, and crews to navigate them. We knew this much before. We are obliged to the "Army and Navy Gazette" for a new item—British torpedoes. We shall add them to the list of our obligations to the treacherous Power, and it will receive our thanks hereafter.

### Mr. Gilmer's Little Joke.

Among the reluctant rebels was Mr. Gilmer, of North Carolina. He was formerly conspicuous in Congress, and so moderate "a Southerner" that his name was mentioned among those of his section who might be properly invited to a place in Mr. Lincoln's cabinet four years ago. Mr. Gilmer is a large slaveholder, and has been a quiet and conservative member of the rebel Congress at Richmond.

After the failure of the late peace negotiations Mr. Gilmer introduced some resolutions into the Rebel House which, if despair has not deranged his mind, are intelligible only as a cunning satire upon the absurdity of the claims of the rebellion. They are in the form of a supplement to the resolutions which declare that the rebels will prosecute the war until they have gained their independence, and resolve that, "notwithstanding all this, we believe the Confederate States would consent to—" what does the reader suppose? They would consent, resolves the sly Mr. Gilmer, "that there be a separation between the United States and the Confederate States of America, each perfectly free and independent of each other."

That is the first thing they would consent to. They would further consent that there should be a "Diet," to which each might send as many delegates and in such manner as it chose. In the Diet there should be but two votes, one by the Northern, the other by the Southern delegates, and its acts should be binding upon neither party until ratified by each. Finally, the rebels would consent to allow Kentucky and Missouri to decide by a vote of the people resident in those States at the beginning of the war, whether they would go with the North or the South.

This is no grim jesting. It is not difficult to imagine Mr. Gilmer, after hearing Benjamin's speech, which declared the last hope of the rebellion to be the help of the slaves, rising and suggesting with Mephistophelian gravity that, whereas the "Confederate States" took up arms to secure their independence, and whereas, after a war of four years, they are now manifestly overcome by the superior power of the Government, and whereas they cannot secure their independence by arms, therefore the same "Confederate States," as a compromise and final adjustment of the quarrel, will "consent to" the recognition of their independence by the United States Government!

### Blowing Hot and Cold.

Nothing can show more vividly the hopeless disarray and confusion of mind of the rebel whippers-in, than the two extracts that follow, both from the same journal, the Richmond Examiner.

On the 22d of February it said: "The fall of Richmond itself, apart from the moral question involved in the fact that it has been the great objective point of a four years' war, and also the fact that it is the principal work-shop of the Confederate armies, would not involve the failure of our cause."

On the 27th of February, five days afterward, the same journal utters a wild cry against the evacuation of the city. It sneers at Davis and Benjamin for hinting that its loss would not be fatal. "It has become the symbol of the Confederacy. Its loss would be material ruin to the cause, and in a moral point of view absolutely destructive, crushing the heart and extinguishing the last hope of the country.... The hope of establishing a Confederacy and of securing its recognition among nations would be gone forever."

### Sherman at Columbia.

The Richmond Whig gives a very vivid and vivid account of the scenes preceding and attending the entrance of Sherman's army into the Capital of South Carolina. His arrival there was utterly unexpected, and confusion and plunder on the part of the rebels reached its height. So terrible were the barbarities of General Wheeler's rebel cavalry, that even this South Carolina writer declares that either the "Yankees or old Satan himself" would be preferable. Sherman's treatment of the citizens, we are told, was uniformly lenient and conciliatory. Beauregard, it seems had only a "little army." We are informed that in South Carolina and its capital, our troops march along "singing with tremendous energy Union songs." Such were some of the sights and scenes in South Carolina during the late eventful month of February.

By the capture of Wilmington, about 400 Union prisoners were released. They were confined in Camp Lamb about one mile from the city.

Their treatment was of the most brutal character, and for three days preceding the evacuation they had not received a mouthful to eat. The citizens had endeavored to feed them, but the food was taken away by the officer in charge. They presented a most sickening spectacle, many of them having been rendered idiotic and had forgotten their own names.

### Last Call to Deserters—A Proclamation by the President.

Whereas, the twenty-first section of the Act of Congress approved on the 3d inst., entitled "An Act to amend the several acts heretofore passed to provide for the enrolling and calling out of the National forces and for other purposes," requires that in addition to the other lawful penalties of the crime of desertion from the military or naval service, "all persons who have deserted the military or naval service of the United States, who shall not return to said service or report themselves to a Provost Marshal within 60 days after the proclamation hereinafter mentioned shall be deemed and taken to have voluntarily relinquished and forfeited their rights to become citizens; and such deserters shall be forever incapable of holding any office of trust or profit under the United States, or of exercising any rights of citizens thereof; and all persons who shall hereafter desert the military or naval service, and all persons who being duly enrolled shall depart the jurisdiction of the District in which he is enrolled, or go beyond the United States with intent to avoid any draft into the military or naval service duly ordered shall be liable to the penalties of this section; and the President is hereby authorized and required forthwith, on the passage of this act, to issue his proclamation setting forth the provisions of this section, in which proclamation the President is requested to notify all deserters returning within sixty days as aforesaid that they shall be pardoned on condition of returning to their regiments and companies, or to such other organizations as they may be assigned to, until they shall have served for a period of time equal to their original term of enlistment.

Now, therefore, be it known, that I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do issue this, my proclamation, as required by said act, ordering and requiring all deserters to return to their proper posts; and I do hereby notify them, that all deserters who shall, within 60 days from the date of this proclamation, viz: on or before the 10th day of May, 1865 return to service, or report themselves to a Provost Marshal, shall be pardoned, on condition that they return to their regiments and companies, or to such other organization as they may be assigned to, and serve the remainder of their original term of enlistment, and in addition thereto a period equal to the time lost by desertion.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the City of Washington this 11th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1865, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-ninth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.  
By the President:  
WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Sec'y of State

### NEWS ITEMS.

Gen. Roddy, a Tennesseean, has left the Rebel cavalry service and come over to the Union.

It is calculated that 2,000,000 of francs are spent in Paris every day in dining, equal to 25 cents apiece.

The Albany Argus calls the Union captures of Southern ports and towns, "recovery of stolen property."

At a club house in St. Petersburg, lately, an English traveller lost 300,000 roubles, equal to \$300,000, at dominoes.

The people of New Orleans held a meeting lately to consider the propriety of closing their places of public amusement on Sunday.

Gen. Winder, most infamous on account of his cruelties to the Union prisoners, died recently of apoplexy at Florence, S. C., aged 65 years.

Gen. Grant reports that since the beginning of the campaign last May, 17,000 deserters have come into our lines from Lee's army alone.

A few young ladies of a Soldiers' Aid Society at Brookfield, Mass., gave a party last week, and the result was \$400 net gain for the soldiers' benefit.

Senator Hammond of South Carolina, who gave the name of "Mudstills" to Northern working-men, is dead. Let the grave bury the memory of the wrong done to the hardy working-man.

The New York Herald gives a list of 86 railroad accidents occurring from September 2d to November 17th, inclusive, resulting in the killing of 129 persons and the wounding of 355.

Great guns cost something. A 10-inch Parrott gun cost \$4,500; and a 11-inch Rodman gun costs \$6,500; a 15-inch Krupp's gun cost \$29,400; a 12-inch Blakely gun costs \$85,000. The two latter are made of steel.

Some of the Copperhead editors declare they will not go to the war, because they had no part in bringing it on! In this declaration they convey a very palpable untruth. They are the very ones that brought on the war by encouraging the South to rebel against the government. Why, Southern men have frequently declared that they would have never gone into rebellion had they not been promised aid from the North; and any one who read the so-called "Democratic" papers before the rebellion will remember how they incited the south to blood by misrepresenting the intentions of a majority of the Northern people. Let the truth be borne in mind, then, that the Copperheads were the real and immediate authors of the rebellion, and consequently of the war and bloodshed which has followed.

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### BROWNING'S CELEBRATED COFFEE.

Whilst trying Coffee of all the various brands, Remember "BROWNING'S EXCELSIOR" at the head it stands. True, it's not like others that are "SOLD EVERYWHERE." A little stretch, we all do know, good goods will easily bear. (But a stretch like this—"sold everywhere"—is very apt to tear.) Now, I can safely say, without any hesitation, There is none like "BROWNING'S EXCELSIOR" in this enlightened nation. Skilled chemists have not found a Coffee from any store Possessing the same ingredients as "Browning's Excelsior." Nor is there any one, in or out of the Coffee trade, Who knows the articles from which "Browning's Excelsior" is made. I'm told it's made from barley, rye, wheat, beans, and peas; Name a thousand other things—but the RIGHT ONE if you please. But with the Coffee-men I will not hold contention! For the many, many things they say—too numerous to mention. Whilst they're engaged in running round from store to store To learn the current wholesale price of "Browning's Excelsior," Some who know my Coffee gives perfect satisfaction. Have formed a plan by which they hope to cause a quick reaction. The case—"tis with a few; no doubt 'twill be with more— To name their Coffee after mine, (BROWNING'S) EXCELSIOR." Some say there's the only brand that will stand a ready test. Now try a little of them all—see which you like the best. Three years have passed away since I first sold a store; Never have I in your paper advertised before; Nor would I now, or ever consent to publish more. If like some used by "everybody," "sold everywhere," in "every store." A trade like this I do not wish; the orders I could not fill; The Factory all Jersey's land would take—leave not a foot to till. My trade is not so very large; still I think I have my share; But, reader, you may rest assured, 'tis NOT "SOLD EVERYWHERE." Manufactured and for Sale by the writer, GEORGE L. BROWNING, No. 20 Market Street Camden, N. J. This Coffee is not composed of poisonous drugs, it contains nothing deleterious; many persons use this Coffee that cannot use the pure coffee; it takes but one and a half ounces to make a quart of good strong coffee, that being just one-half the quantity it takes of Java Coffee, and always less than half the price.

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### Administrator's Sale.

By virtue of an order of the Orphan's Court for the estate of Potter, the following described real estate belonging to the estate of George Ingraham, late of the township of Hebron, in said county, deceased, will be sold to the highest and best bidder at the Court House in the Borough of Coudersport on Saturday the 25th day of March next, at 1 o'clock P. M. One lot of land situate in the town of Hebron, Potter county, Bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a post, the east-north-east corner of lot No. 40, conveyed by Adams and Hunt, thence east 3 and 7-10ths perches to a post, thence North by line of lot No. 86, 139 perches to a post, thence west by line of said lot No. 86, 74 and 4-10ths perches to a post, thence south by line of lot 87 now or late in possession of George Higley, 139 perches to a post, thence east by the line of beginning, Containing Sixty-One and Two-Tenths acres more or less, on which are about Fifteen acres improved, with a shanty barn and a frame house partly enclosed.

A. B. GOODELL, Admr.  
NORMAN DWIGHT, J. Admr.  
Coudersport, Feb. 27, 1865.

### Dr. A. FRENCH'S CELEBRATED TONIC BITTERS.

ARE becoming the most popular Medicine in circulation for the cure of LIVER COMPLAINT, DYSPEPSIA, JAUNDICE, DEBILITY OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM, and WEAKNESS OF THE STOMACH and DIGESTIVE ORGANS. It is also gaining a great reputation in the CURE OF DYPHTERIA. Principal Office, Coudersport, Potter Co., Pa.

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