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OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM LONDON.

More Talk About the Jamaica Massacres and Gov. Eyre—His Friends and Enemies—A Rumor of His Recall—State of Public Feeling on the Subject—The Impending Reform Bill; What the Government Intends and what it Doesn't—Earl Russel's Perplexities—The Queen's Return to Public Life—Prince Alfred, the Princess Helena and Her Future Husband—Condition of King Leopold—Items.

From Our Special Correspondent.

LONDON, Dec. 9, 1865.

The difficulties of the little gentleman whom the decease of Lord Palmerston made Premier of England thicken apace. In the general lull of public affairs preceding the meeting of Parliament (now prorogued to the beginning of February) all England seems to have resolved itself into a committee of inquiry about the Jamaica massacres. From every part of the country there rises up such a cry for a full and searching investigation, that no Government can afford to deny, or even postpone it. Is Gov. Eyre a bloody-minded satrap, who, in consequence of a miserable panic, originating in a riot by ill-used negroes, has shot, hanged, scourged, and hunted 2,000 of the unhappy race to death, in defiance of all law and justice, or merely a "muscular Christian," whose sanguinary measures were justified by the imminent peril of all the white throats in the island? That is the question. The "big and little Times"—namely the journal of that name and The Telegraph—The Herald and Standard, the nobs and the snobs, all champion the butchery, while on the side of colored humanity are The Daily News, The Star, The Morning Advertiser, The Pall-Mall Gazette, The Record, and nearly all the weeklies. And every day the discussion is renewed with a vigor and virulence which may exhaust it before the case comes to trial. Thus far the denouncers of the Governor have certainly the best of it, for a more illogical defense than that set up by his friends and admirers, and seriously supported by so clever a man as Mr. Henry Kingsley (brother to "Alton Locke," and author of "The Hillyars and the Burtons," and other good stories), can hardly be conceived. It is simply, that Col. Eyre can't be in the wrong, because he understands the nature of Australian aborigines, and because he undertook an exploratory expedition across a hideous desert, which resulted in the loss of the lives of most of his party, and nothing else. Thus "muscular Christianity"—for I defy anybody to deduct more from Mr. Kingsley's narrative—is forced into conferring a patent of infallibility! Then, though nobody expects logic from a lady, we have the Governor's sister arguing in the same perverse fashion, that because her brother "amid all his hard work found time to write a brief letter home, inclosing £50 to pay for the schooling of a little niece, whose parents are far from rich," and because an ancestor of his fought for Charles the First, he must be right in hanging Mr. Gordon of Jamaica and slaughtering the blacks! Nor are there wanting similar and equally pertinent testimonials to character. In fact, it is the old story over again about the injured innocent arraigned for petty larceny, of whom the Judge summed up as follows: "Gentlemen of the jury, the young gentleman at the bar has laid before you the most satisfactory evidence of his education, integrity and genteel position in life. I have never heard a more satisfactory character given to any man in a court of justice; but, gentlemen, it appears also that he stole a horse, and you will no doubt find accordingly." It is always so. "If you want to hear innumerable testimonies to a man's unimpeachable character for integrity and veracity, said Sydney Smith, just accuse him of falsehood and peculation in the House of Commons. I remember a Mr. Drummond, M.P., prefacing a confession of personal roguery by distinguishing an ex-member, recently convicted of a shameful act of bribery as "a meritorious officer and an honorable gentleman," when he was eagerly interrupted by "hear! hear! and loud cheers!" Surely if such acts as those of Gov. Eyre's can be ascribed to intentions the purest and the highest that can guide the conduct of a man, we may ask what worse can result from evil proclivities? It was not without reason that the Greeks bestowed on the Furies of Hell the name of the Eumenides, or well-intentioned.

It was currently reported in the early part of the week that Gov. Eyre had positively been recalled and a Lord High Commissioner sent out by the West India mail steamer of last Saturday, the rumor obtaining credit in well-informed quarters; but I think, if it had been true, the fact would have been officially announced ere now. It is quite clear that something must be done to satisfy public feeling on the subject; but what that something is to be in all probability, the Government has hardly decided. It was expected that the last mail would have brought further advices from Jamaica; but if we are correctly informed, the Governor has sent no dispatches whatever bearing on the case. What a precious mail he will get, by return post! The papers are going on worse than ever. He must exculpate himself if the public exasperation continues, for the Government cannot shoulder the odium of his doings with its other heavy responsibilities. Tom Taylor, who is Secretary to the Board of Health, and in constant communication with all kinds of official "swells," writes to The Manchester Guardian that Eyre will be thrown over as an ineligible Jonah, to the popular whale. They hanged Gov. Wall, half a century ago, for much less objectionable abuse of authority.

Next to Eyre and Jamaica comes the question of Reform. All doubt about the intentions of Government in this respect has been set at rest by an announcement in yesterday's Globe, that Her Majesty's ministers have finally decided upon introducing a bill in the ensuing session for the amendment of the representation. The Spectator adds that the measure will "be supported by the whole weight of the Government," and thinks that the time has arrived when the country should indicate its wishes as to the character of the bill. "A £20 franchise in the counties," says our friend, "a £10 franchise in the boroughs, and household suffrage in the 'cities' is the utmost they ought to yield, the least they should consent to accept." Doesn't it read funnily to have political privileges advocated in this fashion? It will hardly satisfy progressive Englishmen, conserving, as the new measure proposes to do, so many existing anomalies in the electoral system. Thus the town of Harwich, in Suffolk, with its 100 and odd voters, will still be allowed to return as many members as Manchester or Middlesex, with their tens of thousands of voters; the only difference being that by any extension of the franchise the magnitude of this anomaly will be prodigiously increased. It is imagined that the opposition of the representatives of the boroughs about to be disenfranchised would of itself prove fatal to any Reform bill, and therefore that their support must be purchased by leaving the electoral districts just as they are. Admire the wisdom of this policy: with an extended suffrage, the first act of a reformed Parliament would be to disfranchise a number of the smaller constituencies in favor of more populous localities—a fact so obvious that the moribund boroughs are not likely to be cajoled into supporting a Reform bill by the prospect of a momentary respite. Moreover, it is extremely desirable that the question, if dealt with at all, should be settled for the time being; and no settlement is possible so long as the representation of the country is decided by purely arbitrary rules. That one vote at Tiverton should weigh equal with a hundred at Marylebone is an absurdity and an injustice which Britons will hardly tolerate much longer. And the workingmen must be recognized and admitted—grudgingly and suspiciously, of course, but still admitted. It can't be prevented, even by The Times, Punch, the nobs and the snobs, and faint-hearted Liberals with genteel proclivities. If the democratic element in Great Britain had been honestly recognized in Parliament during the last five years, the country would have been just as prosperous, and there would have been a very different record of international relations between England and the United States than that unhappily existing, for future English historians to be ashamed of.

With these difficulties to contend with, is it any wonder that Earl Russell—aged 73—is too ill to attend the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday; too ill to receive deputations; too ill to do anything but be pestered, nigh out of his life, by people who want places? Poor little man! one wonders that he should prefer such a turmoil to the honorable privacy that might be his, did he so choose. And, after all, it only amounts to an obituary notice of five or six columns' length, like that accorded to Lord Palmerston! But so it is—had they say his efforts toward "consolidating a Ministry" are as futile as ever. Imprimis, Sir Charles Wood won't resign, and—but I must first make room for an amiable club epigram on his accident, alluded to in a former letter:

> Sir Charles Woodenhead was reported as dead,
> For his horse pitched him on to a wall;
> But his skull was so thick, it just punched out a brick,
> And the Bart. wasn't injured at all!

Now, no Whig Premier can dispense with the present Secretary for India. By Sir Charles hangs Sir George, and by Sir George hangs Earl Grey, who always has two Ministers of Government at his control, and if Lord Russel were to offend him, would inevitably make the Upper House too hot to hold the Prime Minister or anybody else. Then, Mr. Goschen requires a good deal of coaxing, likewise Mr. Forster. Then there are the Liberals, clamoring about "new blood," and, in short, the Premier's existence isn't "all beer and skittles," as a sailor is said to have summed up the enjoyments of life.

It seems certain that the Queen intends to resume public life. What the cause may be—whether the discontent of the aristocracy and the West-End tradesfolks, the attacks of The Times, or Her Majesty's personal dissatisfaction with the performance of her social duties by the Prince and Princess of Wales—excites no little question; those who should be well informed, attributing it to the latter reason. On dit, too, that she consents to reappear in order to ask Parliament for an allowance to Prince Alfred, and a dowry for his sister the Princess Helena. "There will be no caviling," writes Edmund Yates in his Flâneur, "at the bestowal of a proper income on the young prince, who is generally believed to have more brains than most of his family, and to be a clever, if somewhat a saturnine young man. It is also generally stated that he has been 'kept short,' and he is humorously said to have frittered away what little money he had in subscribing to memorials of his father, the Prince Consort." Furthermore, it is credited that he used to thrash "Wales" when they were boys together. Perhaps, however, before voting him a decent income, some questions may be asked whether he is in receipt of the allowance said to be due to him, by arrangement, as heir-apparent of the Duchy of Saxe-Coburg. As for the good-looking Princess Helena, somebody must make her an allowance, or she and her affianced husband will be in a position to try the great experiment so much discussed in the papers some years ago, of whether a young couple can afford matrimony on £300 pound a year, which modest sum must represent more than the usual rental of any property her husband is likely to possess. The Augustinburgs are one of the poorest of German princely families; and Prince Christian is a younger brother. For so young a bride, he is, as Artemus Ward would say, rather "a matoor pusson," being 34 years old; to-day a simple major, to-morrow the husband of an English princess, with at least £6,000 a year and the run of all the palaces. As his only chance of his ever having a crown of his own consists in the vague possibility that his elder brother may obtain the dukedom of that unlucky Schleswig-Holstein, and then die, with all his children, Prince Christian will reside permanently in England, a thing few foreigners like or can make up their minds to. In some roundabout way, I believe, the Augustenburgs are related to the present royal family of Great Britain. The late Duchess of Kent, before assuming that title, was a widow, and had a daughter by her first husband, who was therefore the Queen's half-sister. This lady is somehow akin to the Augustenburgs—how I don't know. Apropos of the coming marriage, last week The Spectator suggested that Her Majesty should provide an income for the young people, reminding folks that she had recently accepted the bequest of a Mr. Neeld, a donkey who left her more than a quarter of a million of money, and must now be immensely rich. But the nation, or rather the Parliament, took possession of the crown lands on the understanding that in future it was to provide a civil list and donations for the royal family. Unquestionably it will be done both for Princess Helena and Prince Alfred. It is very well understood that the Queen dislikes the prospect of the resumption of "the duties" of royalty, or, indeed, the ceremonial part of them.

The Princess of Wales completed her 21st birthday on Friday week, when Her Majesty sent a special messenger to Sandringham with a birthday gift, and "Wales" made his wife the present of "a handsome double phaeton and a pair of brown ponies." There were also rejoicings at Sandringham and Windsor.

The Atlantic and Great Western Railway is, for the second time, in the money market, seeking, like any other great power, for a loan, offering more tempting terms than the Sultan, and what is more, getting the cash. Its bonds are issued at 70, to bear 8 per cent interest, and it is intended to raise £6,000,000. Sir Morton Peto is very busy, indeed, and hopeful.

There was a wedding solemnized in the Temple Church this week—the first for nearly a hundred years. The Saturday Review has got a verdict against Mrs. Theresa Longworth Yelverton, who brought an action against it for comparing her to Phryne, and saying other unpleasant things. Cassell & Co. have the second volume of the Life of Julius Cæsar, by Napoleon the Third, in press, and Dickens's "Doctor Marigold's Prescriptions" is selling enormously. T. B. G.

THE VIRGINIA FREEDMEN.

Report of Col. Brown—Present Condition of the Negroes—A Marked Improvement—Facts and Figures—The Labor Question.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

Gen. Howard to-day received from Col. Brown, Assistant-Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau for the State of Virginia, an interesting report of his operations as an agent of the Bureau, since June 15 last. Col. Brown states that in the neighborhoods of Norfolk, Fortress Monroe and Yorktown about 70,000 freedmen had been collected during the war. From among these from 8,000 to 10,000 recruits for the army had been enlisted. Many other of the able-bodied men had found employment in the different staff departments of the army, leaving their families in this district partially dependent on the Government.

In other districts thousands of freedmen were roaming about without settled employment and without homes. In localities least disturbed by the presence or conflict of armies, and where the average of land was under cultivation, the crops were suffering from want of proper attention, the planter being unwilling to acknowledge his late slave a freeman by becoming a partner with him to a contract, and the freedman conscious that no further service was "due" from him, and wishing to satisfy himself that he was really free by exercising his liberty to leave his own master.

The late slaves have been fully protected in their rights as freedmen, and the exceptional instances where their rights were for a time denied are no longer heard of. It is believed that there is not within the State a person who does not understand and successfully assert his rights to freedom. The extraordinary eagerness of the freedmen for the advantages of schools has been met as far as the resources of the Bureau and the charitable zeal of its friends abroad would allow. There are at present about eleven thousand five hundred pupils receiving instruction from one hundred and ninety-five teachers.

Numerous urgent appeals have come from remote and isolated localities for teachers and books, to which it has been impossible to respond, for want of school-rooms and suitable quarters for teachers. Their progress in learning is such as would warrant a much larger expenditure in money and effort. Many citizens, adhering to the ideas and customs of the past, strongly oppose these movements, while others indorse and encourage them. The sentiment of the community is gradually changing in favor of educating the freedmen.

The irritation existing between the whites and the freedmen immediately after the cessation of hostilities has greatly abated, and instances of personal violence are becoming more rare.

The capacity of the freedmen of Virginia to take care of themselves, even under adverse circumstances, is best shown in the south-eastern part of the State. During the war nearly 70,000 were gathered here on a limited territory in extreme destitution, and yet at this time only 4,412 are receiving Government aid, and about one-half of this number are of the families of soldiers.

During the month of October there were issued 235,786 rations to 11,622 persons, or 7,606 rations per day, the number of persons receiving rations being reduced from the previous month 30 per cent. The requirements of the freedmen for medicines and medical attendance, have been met, as far as the limited resources of the Bureau would allow. Eight hospitals have been organized, and 15 medical officers employed, and in addition, much valuable voluntary assistance has been rendered in treating the sick, by medical officers of the army, and by citizen physicians.

The total number of refugees and freedmen treated has been about 4,300. The number at present under treatment is about 700. Of unrestored property, in the possession of the Bureau, there are at present within the State 56,000 acres. The result of the cultivation of these lands by the freedmen is not yet known, as the crops have not been fully harvested, but it is believed to be satisfactory.

The Assistant Commissioner, in closing, makes the following debatable assertion, that "it is impossible for the employers, with the best intention, to give all the laborers such wages as their support and that of their families require. It is believed that this evil cannot be wholly remedied without the emigration from the State of at least 50,000 freedmen."

MISSOURI.

Nil Desperandum of the Rebels—Ice Blockade and Its Effects—Coal One Dollar per Bushel—Opinions of the Legislature on National Topics—Joe Shelby in Mexico—Rich Letter by Gen. Frost, the Rebel.

From Our Special Correspondent.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 22, 1865.

The Rebel sympathizers in this State were perfectly paralyzed by the Registry Law passed by the Legislature, and now awaiting the Governor's signature to become a law. They don't know what to do about it. At first they threatened to turn in and elect a Legislature next year, who would repeal the obnoxious measure, but they were beaten at the outset. If they cannot vote under the Registry Law, they cannot vote at all. Here is the main difficulty; if they can only override the Registry Law the first year, there is no use repealing it; and thus they reason among themselves that they can literally do nothing, which is the fact pure and simple. The only sensible thing they have suggested is this, that if they cannot vote they will not pay any poll-tax! This is about the sum total of their real redress for alleged grievances. It is rather a quick descent, though, from the sublime to the ridiculous, to notice prominent Conservatives, after arguing the question on high grounds for an hour, to tumble down all in a heap, declaring they won't pay a poll-tax, and then figuring up, as there are 50,000 disfranchised voters in Missouri subject to the poll-tax, the State will lose the enormous sum of $150,000. The simile is kept up to the extent of figuring how much increased taxes the Radicals who can vote will have to pay.

One of the richest things of the day is a pamphlet letter addressed by the late Rebel Gen. D. M. Frost, to Gen. Sterling Price, in response to the General Order issued at Richmond while he was in Europe, some time before the collapse of the Confederacy, announcing his dismissal from the service for absence without leave, implying that he was a deserter. Frost has copyrighted the letter to prevent newspapers from copying it. The letter explains how Frost came to get a furlough for sixty days, and then was detained in Dixie till the time was nearly up, and he had originally started to meet his family in Canada. It is a feeble defense, but the rich part of it is that Frost, who is a native of New-York, tells how much humiliated he was by hearing at the South the curses bestowed upon Southern officers who were born on Northern soil. In one place he tells of a conversation with a distinguished Rebel Senator, referring to an old army officer now deceased, and always accounted a strong Southron in his feelings. The Senator remarked he was glad the man was dead, as he was too much of a gentleman to draw his sword against his native State Ohio, and therefore he was now spared the mortification. Frost is very severe on the Rebel Gen. Holmes, who commanded at Little Rock for many months, and glorifies himself quite eloquently. The truth is that Frost was too much of an aristocrat to undergo the hardships of an army life. He married riches and lives only to enjoy them. He is a first class humbug, and the surprise is how he ever managed to worm his way through the entire courses of West Point with sufficient merit to graduate.

St. Louis has been partially blockaded by an ice-bound river during the past week. The breaking-up, which did so much damage to the steamboats, was only temporary. In less than 24 hours, the air turned cold again, and the ice became a solid mass from shore to shore. The steamboats, to the number of about 20, which were more or less injured (some a total loss), by the sudden breaking referred to, lie jammed together in every conceivable shape for the width of two blocks. Two of them are careened over, and others mashed into smaller dimensions than their builders intended them to be. Some are minus bows, others minus wheels, guards or sterns. It is a singular sight to see these steamers so utterly helpless. The underwriters and owners have endeavored to devise a plan to disentangle the boats and remove them from their present perilous position; but they are fast in the ice, and cannot be budged an inch. The next break-up is feared more than the last, and the boatmen watch every sign of moderate weather with the utmost longing. The river is closed as far south as Cairo, and many boats are frozen between that point and St. Louis with valuable cargoes on board. One boat has a load of 1,500 barrels of petroleum on board, which is likely to remain out of this market for several weeks to come.

The ice is firm enough to allow light teams to cross over in safety. The Transfer Company have laid planks part of the way across from shore to shore for their own conveyances, but other vehicles are charged a dollar a piece, and foot passengers ten cents each. There are other bridges from the levee to the ice at less rates. Last year booths for refreshments were located on the ice and did a thriving business, but no such affair exists this year. The accumulation of goods and railroad freight on the other side of the river has begun to be a serious matter, as the trains cannot be trusted upon the ice with full loads, and the labor of transferring is a serious and slow process.

The most painful effect of the ice blockade is the extortions of the coal-dealers, who have run up the price of coal from nineteen cents to one dollar per bushel (nominally 80 pounds, i. e. 25 bushels to the ton); so that the unsupplied, who are the poorer class, are suffering in a way that those who have been out of fuel only can appreciate. The letter mails have passed over the river with tolerable regularity, but it is only within a few days that newspaper mails have been at all regular either in arrivals or departures.

The Legislature adjourned for the holidays a few days since, providing first that during the recess per diem and mileage should cease, an example worthy of imitation in the halls of Congress. A majority of the members passed through the city en route to their homes, and it was quite curious to mingle among them and hear the various opinions expressed concerning national politics. There is a large majority in favor of the policy of the President and in favor of allowing Congress to settle the reconstruction matters to suit themselves. There is one common platform on which they all stand—that is, the Radical members—compelling the Southerners to legislate liberally for the colored people before returning to the Union. The vote against the negro suffrage question in the Legislature was not on the direct issue, but it is truth to say a minority of the Radicals, joined by the Conservatives and Copperheads in both Houses, would constitute a majority against that measure.

Gen. Joe Shelby, a famous Rebel raider, who has settled, with other self-made Rebel exiles, in Cordova, Mexico, is writing his friends glowing letters from the land of the Montezumas, urging the formation of emigration parties to go to that country. Shelby displays remarkable ignorance of the condition of this State when he writes that Maximilian will enforce contracts made with negroes in the United States for ten years' servitude in Mexico, and advises his friends to bring their negroes along with them if possible. Alas! the publication of Shelby's letters is a death-blow to any scheme for entrapping poor Cuffee. He will let well enough alone!

Gen. Sherman returned here from his Southern trip a few days ago in excellent health. Your readers are aware that Gen. Sherman has announced himself a permanent resident of this city, and his family occupies a house presented to him by a few citizens, located in the suburbs. The General, on his arrival here as Commander of the Military Division of the Mississippi, was severely courted and flattered by the entire conservative population, from the smallest Fenian to the big Rebel nabob living in splendor on Lucas place.

A sensation was created among the Fenians to-day by the publication of an official card by James McGrath, late Head Center of the F. B. of Missouri, declaring that by order of President O'Mahony he had resumed his position as Head Center, and that Mr. Madigan, who had been elected to that office, was deposed. This was cool to say the least. Madigan had been counted a neutral in the O'Mahony-Roberts fight, and the St. Louis Fenians had resolved to retain all funds by them collected, pending the settlement of the controversy in New-York. The Fenians sustain Madigan, and the result will be to add more adherents to Roberts and knock the O'Mahony and Killian party to flinders.

The city is still troubled by some bold robberies. The three companies of the Third Regulars, heretofore associated with many cases of robbery, have been removed to Jefferson barracks.

A fire broke out in the block on the levee known as the City Buildings on Wednesday, and though three of the buildings are "gutted," the fire still burns, as the water congeals so fast that little of it reaches the spots of fire.

MEXICO.

News from Acapulco—The French Terribly Harassed—Alvarez Confident of Success.

SAN FRANCISCO, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

Advices from Acapulco state that Alvarez's forces were at Providentia, 28 miles east of that place, on the 30th ult. Alvarez was confident of the success of the Liberals, whether assisted by the Americans or not. He harasses the French at Acapulco terribly. They get no provisions from the back country, which is in the possession of the Liberals.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

THE RINDERPEST.

The Secretary of the Treasury to-day in a circular calls the attention of Customs officers and agents of the Government in foreign countries, to the late act passed by Congress to prevent the spread of foreign diseases among the cattle of the United States, and says that the importation, not only of bovines, but of sheep, goats, horses, mules and swine is entirely prohibited. Customs officers and foreign agents of the United States are requested to explain the objects of this act and regulations to all concerned in their vicinity.

CASE OF JEFF. DAVIS.

Chief Justice Chase, in conversation yesterday, remarked that whenever he found the case of the United States agt. Jeff. Davis on the docket, he should proceed to try it, but that under no circumstances will he try it in Virginia while the State is occupied by the military.

BOUNTIES.

There seems to be entire unanimity among the members of Congress in regard to the bill recently introduced giving bounties to the volunteers of 1861, which will undoubtedly be passed on the reassembling of that body.

INTERNAL REVENUE.

The receipts at the Internal Revenue Bureau to-day are $800,000.

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.

Gen. Howard to-day received a letter from Gen. Geo. H. Thomas, highly complimenting the officers of the Freedmen's Bureau in his department for the zeal and impartiality with which they have performed their respective duties.

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

THE REPORT OF THE NEW $100,000,000 LOAN CONTRADICTED.

The National Intelligencer says: "Upon authority competent to conclude such a question, we announce that the published statements to the effect that a loan of $100,000,000 was, upon the occasion of his recent visit to New-York, tendered to Mr. Secretary McCulloch by the National Banks, are sheer fabrications. The Treasury has not, at present, any need of a loan, and should such become necessary, it would not be accepted from the banks, but would be solicited and doubtless without trouble immediately obtained from the people."

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Information is desired by the War Department of the names and residences of the twenty-seven soldiers belonging to what was known among the Rebels as the "Foreign Battalion," and who escaped at or about the time of the execution of seven Union soldiers by order of the Rebel Gen. Mercer, before or at Savannah in December, 1864. Such of these soldiers as may be reached by this paragraph are requested to communicate with the Judge Advocate General at Washington their names and residences, together with such information as they may possess in regard to the above referred-to execution.

A TERRIFIC TORNADO.

Pulaski, Tenn., Visited—Houses Blown Down—A Number of Persons Buried in the Ruins—A Lady Killed.

NASHVILLE, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

Rumors of a terrific tornado in Pulaski reached here this morning, but were not tangible enough to report. Trustworthy information from the operator at Pulaski says that a hurricane visited that town, blowing down a number of houses and killing a number of persons and burying them in the ruins. One lady was killed, but the body was not recovered. The telegraph is down between here and Pulaski, and no further particulars have been received.

TENNESSEE.

Negro Killed by a Soldier—But Few Arrests on Christmas—Jurisdiction—Navigation—Cotton.

NASHVILLE, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

A negro was killed by a soldier of the 16th Regulars in the street last night.

Very few negroes were arrested on Christmas day, though there were hundreds perambulating the streets all day. The transferring of the jurisdiction of the punishment of offenders from the military to the civil law causes fewer arrests than formerly.

The river is still rising. The water on the shoals is 30 feet deep. The indications are that the river will overflow its banks.

Cotton is being shipped to New-Orleans actively by the steamers at the rate of $4 per bale; from this point to Cincinnati at $1 per bale. The price of cotton to-day is from 40 to 42c. Holders are firm at that price. Receipts to-day, 321 bales; shipments, 250 bales.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Five Men Drift Out to Sea in a Small Boat and are Drowned—A Street Affray Between Policemen and Negro Sailors—Suicide.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

On Saturday last a small boat, containing three white men and two negroes, put out from Middle Sound, on the coast opposite here, for a pleasure excursion, and went to sea. Later in the day the boat drifted ashore empty. It is supposed it was caught in a squall, and all hands lost. One of the white men was named Gunsell; the other names were not ascertained.

There was a disturbance last night between the police and some colored seamen of the gunboat Tacony. The seamen came ashore on liberty, and got drunk and disorderly. The police attempted to arrest the seamen, when the latter drew pistols and fired a dozen or fifteen shots. The ammunition becoming exhausted, they fled to their boat and put off to the vessel. Capt. Hanover of the police received a flesh wound; no others were hurt. Commander Temple of the Tacony has taken measures to identify and punish the men.

A. Rosenberg, clothing merchant, of the firm of Adron & Rosenberg, committed suicide this afternoon by taking laudanum. No cause is assigned.

Freights have declined; markets unchanged. Exchange on New-York 1 discount for currency; currency scarce.

Gov. Worth Enters Upon the Duties of His Office.

RALEIGH, N. C., Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

Jonathan Worth, Governor elect, took charge of the Executive Office to-day, relieving Provisional Gov. Holden. Gov. Worth has telegraphed Secretary Seward that he has assumed the duties of the office.

MARINE DISASTERS.

Wreck of the Sophronia—Six Men Lost—A Brigantine Ashore at Lookout Shoals—A Bark Among the Breakers in Vineyard Sound.

BOSTON, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

The sunken vessel off Sow and Pigs, Vineyard Island, proves to be the schooner Sophronia (of Fall River), for Bristol, R. I., with coal. All hands are supposed to have been lost. The names of the crew were: Thomas Henderson, master, of Wiscasset; W. S. Bordry, mate, of Mattapoisett; Otis W. Chase, cook, of Harwich; James Grant of Nantucket; J. L. Hathaway and John Shiloy, seamen.

An unknown bark, said to belong in Portland, was discovered this morning near Tuckernuck, Vineyard Sound, among the breakers. A steamer which went to her assistance could not approach near enough to render her aid. There is no chance of saving the vessel.

FORTRESS MONROE, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

Arrived steamer Louisburg from Morehead City 26th. Reports steamer Congress sailed for Baltimore same day. Schooners Lottie, Virginia Price, Pirate's Pride and Unata were loading for New-York. Passed a wrecked vessel at Lookout Shoals with masts gone. Reports brigantine ashore 30 miles south-east of the Cape sea breaking over and sails not furled.

Freshet and Reported Negro Rising in Georgia.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Wednesday, Dec. 27, 1865.

The bridge over the Chattahoochee, seven miles south of Atlanta, has been carried away by a freshet.

There was considerable disturbance on Christmas at Clarksville between the whites and blacks. Particulars are not known.

An Important Habeas Corpus Case—Decision Concerning the Alleged Spy Abercrombie.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

A special dispatch from Baltimore to The Evening Telegraph says:

"Judge Giles, in the United States District Court this morning, had up the important habeas corpus case of Ralph Abercrombie, who is held by Gen. Wooley, charged with being a spy, and with desertion to the enemy; also with giving testimony before a Rebel court-martial in Richmond, on which testimony Capt. Deaton of the United States Army was wrongfully convicted and executed.

Judge Giles decided in favor of military authority, remanding him back to custody for military trial, as he belonged to the United States service and he could not set aside the habeas corpus.

Abercrombie will soon be tried by court-martial. He was Lieutenant in the old United States army.

The Court-Martial of which Gen. Fessenden is President, Col. Bingham, Judge-Advocate, adjourned sine die, having disposed of the important forgery trial of private Thomas Murphy. A new court-martial will probably soon be formed to try Abercrombie.

Consecration of the Missionary Bishop of Colorado.

BOSTON, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

The consecration of the Rev. George Maxwell Randall, D. D., rector of the Church of the Messiah in this city, the newly-elected Missionary Bishop of Colorado and the parts adjacent, took place in Trinity Church in Summer-st. to-day. The Right Rev. John Henry Hopkins, Bishop of the Diocese of Vermont, and presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, acted as consecrator. The consecration services was exceedingly interesting and impressive, and attended by a great congregation, the aisles and galleries of the church being crowded.

From Fortress Monroe—The Weather—Mrs. Clay.

FORTRESS MONROE, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

The weather for the past ten days has been thick, with constant gales. The Louisburg sails for New-York.

Mrs. Clement C. Clay has arrived from Washington to visit her husband.

Found Drowned.

SANDY HOOK, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865.

The body of an unknown man was found on the outer beach, about a mile south of Hook Light to-day. The body, which has been in the water some time, was that of a young man, dressed only in vest and shirt. It will be interred in the Ocean Cemetery here to-morrow.

Non-Arrival of the Belgian.

PORTLAND, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1865—11 p. m.

There are no signs of the Belgian.

Christmas Day in Alexandria—The Negro "Insurrection."

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., Dec. 27, 1865.

On Christmas day in this city considerable rioting took place between colored and white parties, concerning which full evidence has been taken by the military authorities, and the following points proved, viz:

1st. That the disturbances were in every instance commenced by white persons, and in nearly every instance by returned Rebel soldiers.

2d. That the disturbances were premeditated, all the white leaders therein having been previously armed and determined on mischief.

3d. That only the presence of the Federal soldiers—five companies 6th Regiment United States Veteran Volunteers—saved the city from an extensive riot.

The animus of the white rioters is shown by the fact that they collected in strong parties at various points during the morning of the 25th, and allowed no colored man to pass them without grossly insulting him, and beating him cruelly in case he made any reply. It is also a noticeable fact that nearly every one of those attacks was made by many whites upon one black. The colored men having become convinced that they were to be made objects of systematic outrage, armed and prepared for the worst. At 11 o'clock a. m. or thereabout, affairs had assumed a very threatening aspect, one negro having been wantonly killed and two others mortally wounded, and a large number of armed negroes having collected. It seems, however, that at this time the attacks upon the negroes had been discontinued, the perpetrators thereof having come to the conclusion that such operations would partake less of the nature of sport than they did earlier in the day. Indeed, it is extremely probable that the tables would have been turned, and that the negroes would have taken bloody revenge for the murder of their comrades, had not Lieut.-Col. Manuel Eyre, 6th Regiment U. S. Vet. Vols., taken the trembling town under his protection and let loose his war-dogs upon the rioters, who slunk into their holes on both sides, wherever the soldiers could get at them. Many arrests were made, but those guilty of the murders escaped and are still at large. Order was soon restored. Later in the day, however, a white man mad with rum and rage made an unprovoked attack upon a colored man, and got his skull cracked for his pains.

Many of the ruffians who thus amused themselves by trying their hands at their old sport of "walloping the niggers," cheered for Jeff. Davis, and such as were of a musical turn lifted up their voices in singing "Farewell to the Stars and Stripes," and "the Bonnie Blue Flag." Many of them are now singing a different song, being confined in the old slave pen, now converted into a military prison (an instance of poetic justice), and made to confront witnesses testifying to their misdeeds. Capt. Nambrick, Provost Judge, is investigating the whole affair, and it is to be hoped that these guilty desperadoes will be dealt with in such a manner as to deter their admirers from following their example.

There is no doubt that the rioters were all well primed with liquor before they commenced operations, and those who look upon their offense as venal will no doubt endeavor to make it appear a mere drunken escapade without any special significance. If this be the case, however, one of two conclusions must be reached, either the Maine Law must be rigidly enforced in the States animated with such hatred of the colored people that it will break forth in acts of violence whenever a sufficient number of the inhabitants get drunk to furnish the necessary force for combined attacks upon individual negroes, or else troops must be maintained in those States in such strength as to protect the latter against the very frequent attacks to which they are liable from this cause. If the Southern people are allowed to have their option of the two alternatives, they will undoubtedly choose the latter.

Sale of Government Cotton.

John H. Draper & Co. yesterday sold at auction, on account of the United States, a large quantity of Memphis, Mobile, and New-Orleans cotton, at the following rates:

Memphis Cotton—20 bales Middling Fair at 57½c. ℔ ℔; 161 bales strictly Middling at 52½c.; 394 bales low Middling at 50½c.; 369 bales good Ordinary at 48½c.; 274 bales Ordinary at 45½c.; 214 bales Pickings at 25 to 27c.; 747 bales rebaled at 46½ to 48½c.

Mobile Cotton—8 bales good Middling at 53½c. ℔ ℔; 36 bales low Middling at 49½c.; 27 bales good Ordinary at 46c.; 16 bales Ordinary at 44½c.; 81 bales Pickings at 21½c.; 208 bales rebaled at 47c.

New-Orleans Cotton—1 bale good Middling at 52c. ℔ ℔; 6 bales low Middling at 49c.; 10 bales good Ordinary at 46½c.; 8 bales Ordinary at 44½c.; 13 bales low Ordinary at 41½c.; 186 bales Pickings at 20 to 22½c.; 102 bales rebaled at 45½c.

A goodly number of persons were present at the sale, but the bidding was not generally very brisk.

Hotel Personal.

Gen. T. W. Sweeney, U. S. A.; Gen. Steele, U. S. A.; the Hon. William M. Stewart, Nevada; J. M. Warner, U. S. A.; G. M. Brayton, U. S. A.; L. Blossom, Milwaukee; William Norris, San Francisco, and Capt. W. R. Palmer, R. I., were among the distinguished arrivals at the Metropolitan Hotel yesterday.

Mr. Colfax's Lecture.

Cooper Hall was crowded to its utmost capacity last evening, to listen to the lecture of the Hon. Schuyler Colfax, "Across the Continent." The platform was occupied by large numbers of ladies and gentlemen, among whom we noticed a number not themselves unknown to fame, Messrs. Cyrus W. Field, Peter Cooper, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Barney, and others. The speaker was introduced to the audience by the Hon. John T. Hoffman, Mayor elect, and was received with earnest and long-continued applause.

He remarked that he appeared before them to-night to attempt to sketch in a brief manner the outlines of his recent trip across the American continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific. In an attempt thus to condense the observations of an eight months journey through the most interesting portion of our country, into the space of an hour and a half, he must necessarily touch but lightly on the more prominent points. The region which he had traversed comprised a vast, uncultivated and comparatively uninhabited tract of country, abounding in immense resources, which had but just begun to be developed. Opposite to this region, on the other side of the Pacific, lay another similar, rich, undeveloped country, belonging to the Russian Government. The speaker drew a comparison between the recent history of the Russian Government and our own. Each was a Government of progress. Each had recently been a great serf-emancipating nation. [This was greeted by warm applause.]

He alluded to the earnest and friendly interest and sympathy which had been manifested by both the Government and people of Russia for our nation during its late severe struggle, and trusted that when the line of telegraph now in progress, which is to connect the two nations in daily intercourse, shall be completed we should not forget in the first message which flashes over the wire to acknowledge our obligation and gratitude. He (the speaker) had often felt, both in his younger and later days, a strong desire to visit Europe and see with his own eyes all those many objects of interest of which he had heard so often; but when at last the time came when there seemed to be a possibility of a realization of this dream; he thought it first his duty, as an American, to see some of the wonders of his own land. He then gave a most interesting description of his journey of 2,000 miles, by railroad and 2,600 by stage-coach, from New-York to Topeka in Kansas; to Denver in Colorado, across a series of plains forming the finest natural road in the world; past Long's Peak and Pike's Peak, stopping at Denver long enough to view the process of silver mining, and the expensive machinery employed in treating the silver ore; running the gauntlet of hostile Indians, who were plundering, burning and murdering, before, behind, and on either side of them; passing the Snowy Range of mountains by a valley 5,800 feet above the level of the sea; past the singular "Church Butes;" past Fort Bridger, the lonely outpost of civilization; across the great valley, between the ranges of mountains, which has no communication with the sea, and where considerable rivers rise and flow onward for a space, to sink again and disappear in the earth through the wonderful Echo Canon, to Salt Lake City.

He described the capital city of the Mormons, with its 15,000 people gathered from all the nations of Europe, its beautiful site, its broad streets, its clear running streams, and its handsome and costly buildings, and the singular body of water from which it derives its name. Then away again, through the valleys and across the 13 ranges of mountains, which intervene between Salt Lake and the Grand Sierra Nevada range, over a road in many places dug out of the side of the mountains, and where may be witnessed some of the finest specimens of driving in the world; past Austin, a city two years old, with a population of from 3,000 to 5,000 people; past Virginia City, with its neighboring settlements numbering 20,000 inhabitants; past Lake Mahoe, a sheet of water larger than the District of Columbia, lying 4,000 feet above the sea; past Strawberry Station, to San Francisco. He gave a sketch of the progress and present condition of California, and, in illustration of its progress in the manufacturing arts, mentioned the suit of clothes he himself was then wearing, made of wool grown in the State, and woven into cloth and made into garments in San Francisco. From San Francisco, the party proceeded to Oregon and explored the wonders of the Columbia River Valley. Thence to the wonderful Yozemite Valley, with its perpendicular walls, 3,000 feet high, and its cascades, 900 and 2,600 feet in hight. Then to the famous "Big Trees," and back again to San Francisco, and thence by way of the two oceans and the Isthmus of Panama, to New-York.

Having concluded his sketch of the trip, the lecturer gave a more full account of the Mormons, their social and religious institutions, their character and policy, the latter of which he considered inimical to the National Government, and deserving of prompt and careful attention. He spoke of their social institutions as degrading and injurious to the mass of their people, especially the women, and while he deprecated any interference with their religious creed, he thought their peculiar civil laws should be modified, at least to such extent that the laws of the United States should no longer be a nullity in their Territory.

He also spoke of the Pacific Railroad, urging reasons why it should be speedily and thoroughly complete.

The lecture was listened to with great attention and was warmly applauded both during its continuance and at its close.

Dinner to the Wounded and Sick Soldiers Remaining at David's Island Hospital.

The Ladies' Union Relief Association, which has won, by its devotion to the interests of our crippled and suffering heroes of the Union armies, a most enviable reputation, made them a farewell visit on Thursday, the 28th inst. The party consisted of some twenty-five efficient ladies, and a few gentlemen whose hearts and hands are ready to every good work. The steamer belonging to the Police Department of this city was kindly provided for the occasion, as was also the steamer C. W. Thomas, through the kindness of Gen. Van Vliet, and at the time appointed were in readiness at the foot of Twenty-sixth-st. Sundry well-filled baskets, boxes and parcels of well cooked poultry, pies, and other delicacies to match, were piled upon the decks of the little steamers.

These, upon the landing of the boats, were soon transferred to one of the ample mess rooms of the hospital, and in an incredibly short time the ladies had everything in readiness, and all the men, consisting of about 250, able to leave their cots, seated themselves in long lines at the tables. It was pleasant to observe how the cold ham, hot coffee, roast turkey and chicken, celery, sauce, and pies of all kinds disappeared from before the men who had only a few months before fallen wounded and bleeding in battle. When they had eaten all they craved, there was enough left for the supply of another day.

Then followed a telegram from His Excellency, Gov. Fenton, expressing his regrets at not being able to be present, and promising, if practicable, to visit the hospital at a future day. Short addresses by several of the gentlemen present, in which allusions were made to the valuable services those faithful men had rendered in the cause of their country, were well received and earnestly applauded. The speeches were interspersed with instrumental music, which gave a pleasant variety to the festivities. At intervals hearty cheers were given by the men for the President of the United States, Gen. Grant, Gov. Fenton, the ladies and others. The party returned to the City, reaching the place of starting at about 7 p. m.

Monthly Report of the Executive Committee of the National Freedmen's Relief Association.

To the Board of Trustees.

The advance of Winter has brought with it increasing demands for material supplies, which your Committee have been able to answer only to a limited extent.

Our shipments since last report amount to $12,789 87, of which over $9,000 was in clothing for distribution; of the remainder, $1,500 was in goods for the store on Roanoke Island, about $1,000 in supplies for the schools and homes, and the same amount in material for the Ladies' Societies to make up into clothing.

The total expenses for educational purposes have been about $8,000 in December.

The zealous coöperation of the Ladies' Committee has already resulted in great advantage to the Association. The receipts for the month, mainly owing to their exertions, are of 162 packages, the greater part of new and valuable clothing. We have also received from friends of the cause abroad (exclusive of packages to our care for other societies) goods of the value of £677.

We trust that our receipts will increase rather than diminish in the next four months, as the demand still far exceeds the supply; and if, as we hope, Congress, at an early day, will arrange for extending the beneficent operation of the Freedmen's Bureau throughout the entire South, new fields of labor, involving new outlay, will be open to the Association.

CHAS. COLLINS, Chairman.

New-York, Dec. 26, 1865.

AMERICAN WINES.—The United States, with its wide range of soil and climate, a large extent of which are admirably adapted to the culture of the vine, is destined to be a great wine country. The California and Cincinnati wines are already well established, and wine manufactories, or rather presses and cellars, are springing up in all parts of the country, several of them in our own State. Foremost among the manufacturers of this State is R. T. Underhill, M. D., of the Croton Point Vineyards, who has been several years engaged in the business, having an experienced German wine-maker as superintendent. He uses the Isabella and Catawba grapes by themselves as well as combined, the latter for what he calls his "Union Port," a wine which good judges do not hesitate to recommend. As all his wines are free from adulteration with foreign or drugged liquors, they receive the indorsement of medical men.