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The Western Democrat.

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$15 for SIX MONTHS. IN ADVANCE

W. J. YATES, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. CHARLOTTE, N. C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1865. THIRTEENTH VOLUME---NUMBER 657.

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WILLIAM J. YATES,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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THE NEW HOME GUARD LAW.

An Act to Increase the Efficiency of the Home Guard Organization.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That whenever the Guard for Home Defence shall be called into service beyond the limits of their respective counties, the Governor may cause two or more companies to be consolidated into one company so as to make not less than sixty-four men, rank and file, to each company; said company so consolidated shall elect from the Captains commanding the companies so consolidated a Captain to command such consolidated company, and from the first Lieutenants, Second Lieutenants and Junior Second Lieutenants of such companies, an officer of each of said ranks, to be assigned to duty with such consolidated company, such of the officers of companies so consolidated as may not be elected for service with such consolidated company, shall be required to perform service as non-commissioned officers or privates in the consolidated company, formed of their original companies, and while so serving their commissions shall be suspended.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the Governor may in like manner cause two or more battalions or regiments of the Home Guards when called into service beyond their respective battalions or regimental limits, or when called into service within such limits in connection with other portions of such force, to be consolidated; said battalions when so consolidated to be composed of not less than three companies, and said regiments when so consolidated to be composed of not more than ten companies. The Governor may assign to the command of such consolidated battalion or regiment any officer or officers from the battalion or regiments so consolidated.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the Governor may, in his discretion, in constituting the consolidated companies contemplated by the first section hereof, take the one-fourth, one-third, or one-half of any company as at present organized with a due proportion of its officers, out of which to constitute such consolidated company, and such of the officers of companies as at present organized, as may be placed with fractions of their companies, to form a consolidated company,—as may not be elected to command such consolidated company, shall be required to serve in such consolidated company as non-commissioned officers or privates, and while so serving their commissions shall be suspended. The Governor shall have power to discriminate in favor of farmers and mechanics, when he calls out a less number than the whole of a company, also to declare vacant the office of an officer who is declared by a medical board permanently disabled for field duty, either in the militia or Home Guards, or of an officer who absconds to the enemy.

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That all Quartermasters and Commissaries of regiments or battalions of Home Guards as at present organized, that may not be assigned to duty by the Governor with a consolidated battalion or regiment, shall be required to serve as non-commissioned officers or privates, in some one company of their present command, and while so serving their commissions shall be suspended.

SEC 5. Be it further enacted, That the Surgeon General, by and with the advice and consent of the Governor, shall appoint a Medical Board for each Congressional District in this State, whose business it shall be to examine all persons claiming exemption from Home Guard duty on account of physical disability, that these examinations shall be made at such time and under such rules and regulations as may be established by the Surgeon General, and that the members of said Boards shall receive the same pay and allowances while on duty as the Confederate Conscript Boards.

SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That when such companies, battalions or regiments, have been consolidated as herein provided for, they shall continue in such organizations until further provisions shall be made in their behalf.

SEC. 7. Be it further enacted, That the second section of "an act in relation to the Militia and a Guard for Home Defence," ratified the 7th day of July, 1863, be, and the same is hereby amended, by striking out the word "these" in the ninth line of said section, and inserting the word "the;" that the third section of "an act in relation to the Militia and Guard for Home Defence," ratified the 14th day of December, 1863, be, and the same is hereby amended, by inserting between the words "regular" and "millers" the words "and public," and by inserting between the words "millers" and "blacksmiths" the word "and," and that the proviso at the end of said 3d section be and the same is hereby repealed; That in addition to the exemptions specified in the acts aforesaid, there shall be exempt from Home Guard duty all county trustees, regular and public tanners, hatters and shoemakers skilled in their respective callings, and who were employed in the same prior to the first day of January, A. D., 1863, and have continued to be so employed since that time.

Provided, tanners shall sell one-third of their leather to indigent soldiers' wives and widows for their own use at schedule prices.

Provided, that no provision of this act shall be so construed as to exempt from military service any person mentioned herein, in case of actual servile insurrection or invasion of the county in which he resides, by Federal forces, except the persons and classes mentioned in 2d section of an act in relation to the Militia and a Guard for Home Defence, ratified the 7th of July, 1863.

SEC. 8. Be it further enacted, That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Read three times and ratified in General Assembly this 23d day of December, A. D., 1864.

The following are the sections of former laws to which the above law refers:

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Governor to cause to be enrolled as a guard for home defence all white male persons not already enrolled in the service of the Confederate States, between the ages of eighteen and fifty years, resident in this State, including foreigners not naturalized, who have been residents in the State for thirty days before such enrollment, excepting persons filling the offices of Governor, Judges of the Supreme and Superior Courts of Law and Equity, the members of the General Assembly and the officers of the several Departments of the Government of the State, Ministers of the Gospel of the several denominations of the State charged with the duties of churches, and such other persons as the Governor, for special reasons, may deem proper subjects of exemption.—*Law of July*, 1863.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That in addition to the exemptions contained in the act to which this is an amendment, there shall be exempt County commissioners appointed under an act entitled "An act for the relief of wives and families of soldiers in the army," regular millers, blacksmiths who have established shops, necessary operatives in factories and foundries, the Attorney General, Solicitors of the several circuits and counties, physicians of five years' practice, contractors with the State or Confederate government, one editor to each newspaper and the necessary compositors, mail carriers, professors in colleges and teachers in academies; *Provided*, that this exemption shall only apply to the drills specified in this bill and not to service when the Guard for Home Defence is called into the field.—*Law of Dec.*, 1863.

The *proviso* in the above section is repealed. The persons mentioned are subject to Home Guard duty only when the county in which they reside is invaded, or in case of insurrection in the county.

Notice.

All persons leaving Charlotte by Railroad are required to obtain Passports at the Provost Marshal's office. By order, Lieut. G. W. GRAGSON,
Oct 17, 1864 Provost Marshal.

The Western Democrat.
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

THE PEACE COMMISSIONERS.—The Richmond Sentinel, speaking of the departure of our Commissioners for Washington city, says the circumstances under which these gentlemen have departed on their mission, is understood to be as follows:

Blair having sought an official confidential interview with Mr. Davis, departed for Washington with the assurance that our President would be willing at any time, without any obstinate regard to form, to send an Agent or Commissioners to Washington to confer about terms of peace, if informed in advance that said Commissioners would be received.

On Blair's second visit to Richmond he brought the consent of Lincoln to receive and confer with any agents, informally, sent with a view to the restoration of peace. The three gentlemen who left were thereupon selected by the President, and have gone without formal credentials, merely as informal agents, to see whether it be possible to place confidence for peace on any basis which may serve for attaining so desirable results.

Our Commissioners Across the Lines.—Petersburg, Jan. 31.—Gen. Grant sent in a flag of truce to-day, announcing that our Commissioners would be received at 5 o'clock, p m. Accordingly at that hour, Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell proceeded out on the Baxter road, and under flag of truce entered the enemy's lines in front of Wise's brigade, of Gen. Bushrod Johnston's division. They were received by Col. Hancock, of Gen. Grant's staff, and conducted to a special train, to the car in the rear. The Commissioners will be entertained at Grant's headquarters to-night, and start for Washington to-morrow. Mr Stephens' servant accompanied him. Colonel Hatch, Assistant Agent of Exchange, accompanied the Commissioners, as Secretary. During the passage of the Commissioners across the lines, the breastworks of the enemy, as well as our own, were crowded with soldiers witnessing the novel event.

It is stated that the Commissioners, in passing through our lines, were vociferously cheered by our troops, and that similar demonstrations were made by the Yankees on their arrival within the Yankee lines.

☞ Gen. John C. Breckinridge has been appointed Secretary of War, in place of J. A. Seddon, resigned.

☞ Wm. Johnston, Esq., of Charlotte, N. C., was tendered the appointment of Commissary General, in place of Northrop resigned; but Mr Johnston declined it.

FACTORY BURNT.—We regret to hear that the cotton Factory of McAlister & Co., in Montgomery county, caught fire accidentally on Friday night last and was destroyed.—*Fayetteville Observer.*

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.—We understand that the government has decided, in the case of Mr. Augusta Spann, late of Mississippi deceased, who was an exempted agriculturalist, that where a detail or exemption was revoked, or the detailed or exempted party died, only a payment pro rata for the time the party enjoyed the detail or exemption, would be exacted. This decision was elicited from the Secretary of War by a letter from A. G. Mayers, Esq., on the subject of the liability of the estate of Mr Spann, he having died a few months after he was exempted.

POWDER MILL EXPLOSION.—The incorporating house of the powder mills on the Crabtree, three miles from Raleigh, was blown up on the 27th. A free negro who was near it was set on fire and blown into the canal

KIRK'S RAIDERS.—We understand that all the Classes of the Home Guard are ordered to report at once at Morganton to meet an anticipated attack from a body of Kirk's raiders. During last week the force stationed at Piedmont Springs were surrounded by about three hundred men, supposed to belong to the same command, and our men were compelled to fall back. Such is the news from the Western front.—*Statesville Express.*

Shad have made their appearance in the market at Wilmington, at $1.50 in specie, per pair.

TAX-IN-KIND NOTICE.

We will attend at the following places for the purpose of taking the Returns of the Second Class Crop, which consists of Corn, Buckwheat, Rice, Irish Potatoes, Cured Fodder, Sugar, Molasses, Peas and Beans, Ground Peas, and Cotton:

Lemly's,	Tuesday,	17th	January, 1865.
Deweese's,	Wednesday,	18th	"
Mallard Creek,	Thursday,	19th	"
Harrisburg,	Friday,	20th	"
Crab Orchard,	Tuesday,	24th	"
Clear Creek,	Wednesday,	25th	"
Morning Star,	Thursday,	26th	"
Providence,	Friday,	27th	"
Sharon,	Monday,	30th	"
Steel Creek,	Tuesday,	31st	"
Berryhill's,	Wednesday,	1st	February,
Paw Creek,	Thursday,	2d	"
Long Creek,	Friday,	3d	"

JAS. J. BLACKWOOD,
W. M. STITT,
Assessors Tax-in-Kind, 45th Dist. N. C.
Dec. 26, 1864. 6t-pd

NOTICE.

I positively forbid all persons from hunting on my land. I can no longer bear the depredations that have been committed on my premises,
A. A. ALEXANDER.
January 9, 1865. 1m-pd

Wm. F. Davidson,

ATTORNEY AT LAW, CHARLOTTE, N. C.,
Will resume the practice of Law in the Courts of Mecklenburg county, and will attend to the collection of claims, &c.
January 9, 1865 4t

REHOBOTH FURNACE, In Blast,

3 miles north-east of Iron Station, Lincoln co, N.C.
The proprietors are prepared to do Casting of all kinds. Address,
SHIPP & REINHARDT,
Dec. 5, 1864. tf Iron P. O., N. C.

For the Western Democrat.

SKETCHES OF TRAVEL

Through the North into the Confederate lines
BY A LADY.

LENOIR, N. C., Jan. 25, 1865.

MY FRIEND: You requested me to give you an account in toto of our travels since leaving Kentucky until our arrival at our present home. This I fear would be a herculean task, but knowing your kind anxiety in all that relates to us, I will briefly sketch the most prominent incidents of our journey. You are already acquainted, to some extent, with our misfortunes in Kentucky since the war began, particularly from the time of leaving Covington, on the border, for the interior of the State, but you can never know the thousand petty annoyances to which we were subjected by the Federal authorities, who persecuted us in lieu of the gray-haired father and young brother who fled from their despotism, uniting their fate with that of the Confederacy of freemen.

Finding life almost intolerable under the surveillance of Yankee detectives, we applied for a pass into Confederate lines by letter to General Burbridge, and were informed that such could be granted only by the President, application to be made *en personne*. So leaving old Kentucky with its many true hearts, thousands throbbing as warmly for Southern rights as our own, we proceeded to Cincinnati and from thence on the "crest line" to Baltimore via Pittsburg and Harrisburg. At Baltimore we met friends of the secret league of sisterhood whose mission it is to care for the wants of our noble suffering prisoners, and manifold are the comforts dispersed by their busy hands. God bless the Maryland women, heart, soul and hand are with the patriots. Together we visited the beautiful Greenmount Cemetery, and stood by the graves of many of our martyr heroes whose bodies removed from the battle field of Gettysburg, mingle their ashes with the dust of "the old land." Flowers and clinging myrtles wreathe the last resting place of those few fortunate that the red burial of an enemy's battle field was not theirs, and that Maryland's daughters weep for the brave who sleep sweetly here "after life's fitful fever." * * *

From Baltimore we proceeded to Washington, and thanks to the intrigue of a friend, (a favorite with officials,) gained the *entree* into the presence of his most royal majesty, Abraham Lincoln.—There being many applicants before us, we had opportunity for observing the demeanor of this President. There is not one ray of human kindness in this man's face, no trace of the being made "little lower than the angels." No dignity, no courtesy in his address—an aspect wholly repulsive, a buffoon, "royal jester of a nation's woes."

A tearful mother, imploring for a son's life, was turned away with a brutal jest and denial; a grey-haired father and weeping sister, pleading for a son and brother to be removed from a hospital's comfortless walls that affection's hand might tend them, were treated with this same monstrous levity. God help America!

Our request was peremptorily refused with the assurance that he (the President) had no sympathy with us or our kind. It may be of our party, (Southern sympathizers) or of our sex—the latter would be quite in keeping with his bearing toward ladies. He essayed a few feeble jokes for our benefit, but as we, not being of the enlightened shoddy, didn't 'take,' he desisted in great disgust at our obtuseness. Leaving the desecrated threshold of the "White House," we returned to Baltimore, not discouraged, oh! no, was ever a woman so? When she will, she will, and there's an end on't. Consulting with our friends in Baltimore, we first appealed to Mrs. Lincoln, as country women, to assist us by her influence with Stanton This being unsuccessful, we resolved to make one more request to the Federal authorities and if that failed to run the blockade in spite of Mrs. Partington's "bumble shells."

Leaving Baltimore with many a parting thought for the sleepers at Greenmount and its sad, noble women, we proceeded to Charleston, West Virginia, and with the assistance of several *ci devant* Union men, requested a permit to pass through the lines at Gauley Bridge, (many had done this after refusal at Washington, never mentioning previous applications,) but were again refused.—Nothing daunted we took lodging with an estimable lady, who, although an aunt of Gen. Grant, is an enthusiastic rebel. Eight weeks we spent in this beautiful little Kanawha Valley, surrounded by the Lincoln hirelings, who watched us suspiciously at first, but we hoodwinked them by our contented manner. Then fortune favored us Gen Crook was left in command of this department, and our hostess, a favorite, procured us the long wished for pass. Leaving Kanawha Valley with many pleasant memories of newly made friends, with a kind, responsible driver and some lady friends, we took conveyance in a little traveling wagon for Dixie.

Lieut. Gov. Jacobs, of our State, being banished from home by Burbridge, made one of our party, and truly Bonaparte crossing the Alps had less meed of fame than our brave little band climbing Big and Little Sewell mountains in the month of December, 1864. Along this route to Lewisburg, Va., can be seen the ravages of war's desolation; the road is strewn with the bleaching bones of horses and mules, the light soil barely covering the human forms that fatigue and starvation laid there in that terrible Hunter's raid through Western Virginia.

Our arrival at Wytheville was at quite an unpropitious time. After Gen. Gillem's raid and the evacuation of this little town by our forces, you may imagine our dismay at finding ourselves again surrounded by Yankees. The force of the enemy being very considerable, our little band was forced to withdraw. You have heard of Major Johnson's handsome ruse, of this we were witnesses, and thanks to this brave officer a large amount of the ordnance stores were saved. Five minutes had scarcely elapsed from the time of the "force of four" leaving town till the streets were filled with howling, shrieking Yankees, who immediately commenced their work of destruction of public buildings. The Presbyterian Church, not two hundred yards from our boarding house, contained the ammunition, powder and guns, on first floor, and shells in the basement. The ladies, at the hotel where Gen. Gillem was stopping, heard him give an order to have the Church fired after the other buildings were burned and then leave town. The ladies implored him not to devote them to destruction, but volunteered themselves to remove the powder. At length he gave his men permission to throw the powder in the public well, but the guns and shells were left. Several negro families were told to leave as the shells might injure them. We were advised to remain as no damage would be done. At 12 p. m., the explosion commenced—the shells bursting around us continually until morning Daylight found our streets free from the tread of the invader and our forces returning.

And now my friend, if you would follow our fortunes further, come to our pleasant little home in Lenoir, where after our vexatious wanderings we are gathered together around one hearthstone, where there lurks no dark shadow of despotism to ruin the loving beauty of contentment. Come, and you will believe that happiness can exist where freedom lives, even though "the cup be earthen and the viands those that a god would scorn."

A. L. P.

Ivy Mount, Lenoir, N. C.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

January 28.—The Senate to-day again passed the bill authorizing the transmission of newspapers to soldiers free of postage, notwithstanding the President's objection—yeas 13, nays 4.

Gov. Graham was elected President *pro tem* of the Senate, during the absence of the Vice-President.

In the House, the Senate bill for the employment of slaves and free negroes to work on fortifications, was amended and passed.

January 30.—In the House, to-day, Mr Dejarnette of Va., submitted the following, which he supported in an elaborate speech:

Whereas, All nations have ever witnessed with alarm the establishment of a formidable power in their vicinity, and

Whereas, The people of the Confederate States, as well as the United States, have ever cherished the resolution that any further acquisition in North America by any foreign power would be inconsistent with their prosperity and development, and

Whereas, The invasion of Mexico by France has resulted in the alleged establishment of a government founded on the consent of the governed, nevertheless we have reason to believe that ulterior designs are entertained against California and other Pacific States, which we do not regard as parties to the war now waged against us, as they have neither furnished men nor money for its prosecutions, therefore the Congress of the Confederate States do

Resolve, That the time may not be distant when we will be prepared to unite on a basis of the independence of the Confederate States, with those most interested in the principles of the Monroe doctrine, and to the carrying out of those principles on the North American continent. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

[We suppose these resolutions are intended as a sort of *feeler* for the yankees]

Jan. 31.—In the House, after debate, the Senate bill authorizing the transmission of newspapers to soldiers free of postage was again passed, notwithstanding the President's objections—yeas 63, nays 13.

The Senate agreed to a reference of the consolidation bill to a committee of conference.

The House bill for the sequestration of the property of persons liable to military service, who have departed, or shall depart, from the Confederate States without permission, was passed—yeas 12, nays 7.

PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT

Appointing a day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer, with Thanksgiving.

The Congress of the Confederate States have, by a joint resolution, invited me to appoint a day of public fasting, humiliation and prayer, with thanksgiving to Almighty God.

It is our solemn duty, at all times, and more especially in a season of public trial and adversity, to acknowledge our dependence on His mercy, and to bow in humble submission before His footstool, confessing our manifold sins, supplicating His gracious pardon, imploring His Divine help, and devoutly rendering thanks for the many and great blessings which He has vouchsafed to us.

Let the hearts of our people turn contritely and trustfully unto God; let us recognize in His chastening hand the correction of a Father, and submissively pray that the trials and suffering which have so long borne heavily upon us may be turned away by His merciful love; that His sustaining grace be given to our people, and His divine wisdom imparted to our rulers; that the Lord of Hosts will be with our armies, and fight for us against our enemies; and that He will graciously take our cause into His own hand and mercifully establish for us a lasting, just and honorable peace and independence.

And let us not forget to render unto His holy name the thanks and praise which are so justly due for His great goodness, and for the many mercies which He has extended to us amid the trials and sufferings of protracted and bloody war.

Now, therefore, I, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, do issue this my proclamation, appointing FRIDAY, the 10th day of March next, as a day of public fasting, humiliation and prayer, (with thanksgiving,) for "invoking the favor and guidance of Almighty God;" and I do earnestly invite all soldiers and citizens to observe the same in a spirit of reverence, penitence and prayer.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Confederate States, at Richmond, this twenty-fifth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The mother of the Italian Princess Anna, whose fortunes were about to be united with those of the oldest son and heir Victor Emanuel, was a Miss Frazier, of Charleston, S. C., whom the Prince Lucian Murat married during his long exile in America; so that the future Queen of the new Italian nation will be half South Carolinian.

N. C. LEGISLATURE.

On the 28th, in the Senate, Mr Patterson introduced a bill to continue in force the law in regard to Banks and currency, which passed its several readings. A bill to exempt the employees of the N. C. Powder Manufacturing Company (in Mecklenburg county) passed its several readings, on condition that they make powder for the State when required, and pay 25 per cent of their annual profits over into the State Treasury. A bill to enable the citizens of the State to consolidate lands was rejected.

In the House, three hundred and twenty-three new Magistrates were appointed.

In the Senate on Monday the 30th, the resolutions to grant a bounty of one negro and fifty acres of land to each soldier, was taken up, amended and referred to the judiciary committee. Mr Pitchford introduced a bill to change the name of the "North Carolina Express Company" to the "People's Express Company." [Humbug.]

In the House, Mr Brown of Mecklenburg, introduced a resolution proposing to adjourn *sine die* on Wednesday, Feb. 1st. On motion of Mr Grissom the resolution was laid on the table—ayes 44, nays 34. Mr J H Headen then introduced a resolution to adjourn on Friday the 3d of February to meet again on the first Monday in April. This resolution was laid on the table temporarily.

Mr McLean introduced a resolution authorizing the Governor to contract with Stuart, Buchanan & Co., for a supply of salt for the year 1865, should he deem it necessary. Passed its several readings under a suspension of the rules. Mr Bond, of Gates, a bill to create a homestead freehold, by exempting from execution a certain portion of the land of any citizen of the State of North Carolina.

A bill for the relief of the people. [Levies a tax of ninety per cent. upon executions for debt in cases where specie payment is demanded,] was put on its 2d reading. Mr McGehee moved that the bill be laid on the table. Not agreed to. Yeas 28, Nays 52. The bill was then informally passed over for the present, on motion of Mr Brown, of Mecklenburg.

THE RAILROADS.—The following resolutions were introduced in the North Carolina Senate on the 26th, by Mr Ellis:

Resolved, That the Committee on Internal Improvements be instructed to inquire how many of the railroad companies in North Carolina have violated and forfeited their Charters, and in what manner they have so violated and forfeited them, whether by raising their freights above their chartered privileges, by refusing to receive and transport freight, by charging unlawful and unusual prices for freight, by transporting freight for some parties in preference to others, by conveying some passengers over their roads and refusing others, by absolutely refusing to convey freights, by contracting with Express companies in preference to private citizens, by dividing profits with Express companies, by fraud, by corruption, by bribery, by certificates to keep men out of the army, by keeping more men out of the army than the roads need, by entering into contracts with men to keep them out of the army for consideration and profit, by being paid directly or indirectly to keep men out of the army, by neglecting and refusing to provide suitable and comfortable accommodations for their passengers, for detention of goods, for neglect of duty, for extortion and an intent to evade the law, and for every other manner in which they have violated their chartered rights.

Resolved That said Committee have power to send for persons and papers, to compel the attendance of Stockholders, Directors and all other officers and employees of said roads, to compel the attendence of witnesses, to swear witnesses and examine parties under oath.

Resolved, That said Committee have power to regulate and fix their own times and places of meeting and adjournment during the present session, in vacation or during any subsequent session, and that when their investigation shall have been completed, they report to the General Assembly if in session, and if not in session, to the Governor.

NORTHERN ITEMS.

An arrival from Pernambuco reports that the Confederate steamer Shannandoah had destroyed several American merchantmen along the coast of Brazil, in consequence of which, vessels bound to the United States were obtaining British registers.

Gen. McClellan sailed for Europe on the 26th ultimo.

The American Hotel at Buffalo, and other buildings, were destroyed by fire on the 26th ult. Loss $1,000,000.

The steamship Atlantic, from Mobile bay, with 1,000 bales cotton from the Confederate government, arrived at New York on the 24th.

General Dix has suppressed the Confederate personals in the New York Daily News.

A Washington telegram says the whole subject of the exchange of prisoners is now in the hands of Gen. Grant, and there is reason to believe a full exchange will soon be effected.

FOREIGN POSSESSION.—The Philadelphia Inquirer of the 21st, learns that advices from Nassau, N. P., state that the Confederates there have purchased Andros Island, about 60 miles west of New Providence, and are about to establish there an arsenal and naval depot, and also open Courts of Admiralty for the sale and adjudication of prizes captured by their sea rovers. The Confederates paid, or are to pay, eight millions of dollars in cotton for the Island. Their principal port will be Ascension, situated on a fine harbor on the eastern side of Andros Island, directly opposite Nassau.

We learn from the Charleston Courier, that the Rev. John S. Harris, who died at Guthliesville, South Carolina, bequeathed his library, which was of considerable extent and value, except such volumes as his widow may select and retain, to Davidson College, N. C., of which institution he was a graduate.