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The New Tax Bill.

We present below a synopsis of the bill to lay taxes for the common defence and carry on the Government of the Confederate States, which has passed both branches of Congress. It is substantially the bill proposed by the Committee of Conference:

1. The first section imposes a tax of eight per cent. upon the value of all naval stores, salt, wines and spirituous liquors, to be manufactured or unmanufactured, cotton, wool, flour, sugar, molasses, syrups and other agricultural products, held or owned on the first day of July next, and not necessary for family consumption for the unexpired portion of the year 1863, and of the growth or production of any year preceding the year 1863; and a tax of one per cent upon all moneys, bank notes or other currency on hand or on deposit on the 1st of July next, and on the value of all credits on which the interest has not been paid, and not employed in a business, the income derived from which is taxed under the provisions of this act.

2. Every person engaged, or intending to engage, in any business named in the 1st section, shall, within 60 days after the passage of the act, or at the time of beginning such business, and on the 1st of January in each year thereafter, register with the district collector a true account of the name and residence of each person, firm or corporation engaged or interested in the business, with a statement of the time for which, and the place and manner in which the same is to be conducted, &c. At the 1st of the registry there shall be paid the specific tax for the year ending on the next 31st of December, and such other tax as may be due upon sales or receipts in such business.

3. Any person failing to make such registry and pay such tax, shall, in addition to all other taxes upon his business imposed by the act, pay double the amount of the specific tax on such business, and a like sum for every thirty days of such failure.

4. Requires a separate registry and tax for each business mentioned in the 5th section, and for each place of conducting the same, but no tax for mere storage of goods at a place other than the registered place of business. A new registry required upon every change in the place of conducting a registered business, the death of a person conducting the same, or upon the transfer of the business to another, but no additional tax.

5. Imposes the following taxes for the year ending the 31st of December, 1863, and for each year thereafter:

- Bankers shall pay \$500.
- Auctioneers, Retail Dealers, Tobacconists, Peddlers, Cattle Buyers, Apothecaries, Photographers, and Confectioners, \$50 and two and a-half per centum on the gross amount of sales made.
- Wholesale dealers in liquors, \$200, and five per centum on gross amount of sales.
- Retail dealers in liquors \$100, and ten per centum on gross amount of sales.
- Wholesale dealers in groceries, wares, merchandise, &c., \$200, and two and a-half per centum.
- Lawnmowers, Money and Exchange brokers, \$200.
- Distillers \$200, and twenty per centum.
- Brewers \$100 and two and a-half per centum.
- Hotels, Inns, Taverns and Eating Houses, first class \$400, second class \$300, third class \$200, fourth class \$100, fifth class \$50.
- Every house where food or refreshments are sold, and every boarding house where there shall be eating houses under this act.
- Commercial brokers or commission merchants, \$200, and two and a-half per centum.
- Theatres, \$500, and five per centum on all receipts. Each circus \$100, and 10 for each exhibition. Jugglers and other persons exhibiting shows, \$50.
- Bowling alleys and Billiard rooms, \$40 for each alley or table registered.
- Every Stable keeper, Lawyers, Physicians, Surgeons and Dentists, \$50.
- Butchers and Bakers, \$50 and one per centum.

6. Every person registered and taxed is required to make returns of the gross amount of sales from the passage of the act to the 30th June, and every three months thereafter.

7. A tax upon salaries, except of persons in the military or naval service, of one per cent. when not exceeding \$1,500, and two per cent upon an excess over that amount. Provided, that no taxes shall be imposed by virtue of this act on the salary of any person receiving a salary not exceeding \$1,000 per annum, or at a like rate for a shorter period of time, longer or shorter.

8. Provides that the tax on annual incomes, between \$500 and \$1,500, shall be five per cent; between \$1,500 and \$3,000,

five per cent on the first \$1,500 and ten per cent on the excess; between \$3,000 and \$5,000, ten per cent; between \$5,000 and \$10,000, 12 1/2 per cent; over \$10,000, fifteen per cent; subject to the following deductions: on incomes derived from rents of real estate, manufacturing and mining establishments, etc., a sum sufficient for necessary annual repairs, on incomes from any mining or manufacturing business, the rent, (if rented) cost of labor actually hired, and raw material; on incomes from navigating enterprises, the hire of the vessel or allowance for wear and tear of the same, not exceeding ten per cent; on incomes derived from the sale of merchandise or any other property, the prime cost, cost of transportation, salaries of clerks and rent of buildings; on incomes from any other occupation, the salaries of clerks, rent, cost of labor, material, &c.; and in case of mutual insurance companies, the amount of losses paid by them during the year. Incomes derived from other sources are subject to no deductions whatever.

All joint-stock companies and corporations shall pay one-tenth of the dividend and reserved fund annually. If the annual earnings shall give a profit of more than ten and less than twenty per cent, on capital stock, one-eighth to be paid; if more than twenty per cent, one-sixth. The tax to be collected on the 1st of January next and of each year thereafter.

9. Relates to estimates and deductions, investigations, referees, &c.

10. A tax of ten per cent on all profits in 1862, by the purchase and sale of flour, corn, bacon, pork, oats, hay, rice, salt, iron, or the manufactures of iron, sugar, molasses, made of corn, butter, woolen cloths, shoes, boots, blankets and cotton cloths. Does apply to regular retail business.

11. Each farmer, after reserving for his own use 50 bushels of wheat, and 50 bushels of Irish potatoes, 100 bushels corn or 50 bushels wheat produced this year, shall pay and deliver to the Confederate Government one-tenth of the grain, potatoes, sorgho, sugar, molasses, cotton, wool and tobacco produced. After reserving twenty bushels peas or beans he shall deliver one-tenth thereof.

12. Every farmer, planter or grazier, one tenth of the hogs slaughtered by him, in cured bacon, at the rate of 60 pounds of bacon to 100 pounds of pork; one per cent upon the value of all neat cattle, horses, mules, not used in cultivation, and asses, to be paid by the owners of the same; beaver sold, to be taxed as income.

13. Gives in detail the duties of post-quartermasters under the act.

14. Relates to the duties of assessors and collectors.

15. Makes trustees, guardians, &c., responsible for taxes due from estates, &c., under their control.

16. Exempts the income and moneys of hospitals, asylums, churches, schools and colleges from taxation under the act.

17. Authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to make all rules and regulations necessary to the operation of the act.

18. Provides that the act shall be in force for two years from the expiration of the present year, unless sooner repealed; that the tax on naval stores, flour, wool, cotton, tobacco and other agricultural products of the growth of any year preceding 1863, imposed in the first section, shall be levied and collected only for the present year.

The bill, of which the foregoing is a summary, now only awaits the signature of the President to become a law. In the present condition of affairs, and at this late stage of the session, it is presumable that he will waive objections, if he may have any, and sign it; and yet the bill, which we had not seen till yesterday, is extremely faulty in principle, and still more so in its details. Do we believe it practicable at this time to cure its inequalities and defects? We should invoke the Executive veto, but satisfied that this cannot be done, we call upon the people to accept and abide the law as it is, and to repress all agitation, discontent or murmuring.

Crops.—A friend writes from High Point on the 15th inst:

"The crops of wheat everywhere look finely notwithstanding the late spring; and in almost every house is to be heard the sound of the loom. You know that my 'roving disposition' has carried me over the State often at this season of the year and my experience is that the wheat crop is so far promises well, and further there is much more provisions in the country than supposed. People do not care to sell at least till they see now the growing crop turns out.

In this connection allow me to remark that our excellent Governor, acting under authority given him by the Legislature, has bought and has now on hand 800,000 pounds of bacon, 2,000 casks of rice and about 80,000 bushels of corn. This is to be distributed among the different counties for the benefit of the poor. I learn that but two counties have so far applied for bacon. The act appropriating \$1,000,000 for soldiers' families is working well and doing much good."

WHAT IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS IS NOBODY'S.—The editor of the Brandon Republican, appreciating the moral of this stage, last week took notice in his paper of the fact that the gardens of the soldiers' wives and poor widows in town needed plowing, and called on twenty gentlemen to send a horse and plow each on a certain day and do the job. Fourteen of them responded—one of them sending two plows and another two men instead of clear of the ground. Encouraged by this success, he has this week designated 14 more to send a hand each with the necessary tools, on a day named, to repair such of the garden fences as stand in need of it.

Married, on the 6th inst., R. A. Tar, Esq., to Miss Jane Feathers—common-lawites that work well together.

Voice of New Jersey.

New Jersey has again declared against the war. Her voice is plain and earnest, and it cannot be mistaken. Her Legislature has just, by a vote of 38 to 13, passed the following resolutions. Read them and honorably protest against the acts of Lincoln:

"1. Be it further resolved by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey, That this State, in promptly answering the calls made by the President of the United States, and since the inauguration of the war, for troops and means to assist in maintaining the power and dignity of the Federal Government believed and confided in the professions and declarations of the President of the United States, in his inaugural address, and in the resolutions passed by Congress on the 25th day of July 1861, in which, among other things, it was declared 'that the war is not waged for conquest or subjugation, or interference with the rights or established institutions of the States, but to maintain and defend the supremacy of the Federal Government, and that as soon as these objects shall be accomplished, the war ought to cease; and that, relying upon the assurances, given under the scarcity of official oaths, this State freely fully, and without delay or conditions, contributed to the assistance of the Federal Government her sons and her means.

2. And be it resolved, That this State, having waited for the redemption of the sacred pledges of the President and Congress with a patience and forbearance only equalled in degree by the unflinching and unswerving bravery and fidelity of her sons, conceives it to be her solemn duty, as it is her unquestioned right, to urge upon the President and Congress, in the most respectful but decided manner, the redemption of the pledges under which the troops of this State entered upon and to this moment have continued in the contest; and inasmuch as no conditions have delayed nor hesitation marked her zeal in behalf of the Federal Government, even at times when party dogmas were dangerously usurping the place of broad national principles and Executive and Congressional faith; and as the devotion of this State to the sacred cause of perpetuating the Union and maintaining the Constitution has been unstained in any degree by infidelity, bigotry, sectionalism or partnership, she now, in view of the faith originally pledged, of the disasters and disgraces that have marked the steps of a changed and changing policy, and of the imminent dangers that threaten our national existence, urges upon the President and Congress a return and adherence to the original policy of the administration as the only means, under the blessing of God by which the adhering States can be reunited in action, the Union restored, and the nation saved.

3. And be it resolved, That it is the deliberate sense of the people of this State that the power within the limits of the Constitution is ample for any and all emergencies; and that all assumptions of power under whatever plea, beyond that conferred by the Constitution, are without warrant or authority, and if permitted to continue without remonstrance, will finally encompass the destruction of the Republic; and therefore, to the end that in any event the matured and deliberate sense of the people of New Jersey may be known and declared, we, their representatives in Senate and General Assembly convened, do, in their name and in their behalf, make unto the Federal Government this our solemn protest.

PROTEST

Against a war waged with the insurgent States for the accomplishment of unconstitutional or partisan purposes;

Against a war which has for its object the subjugation of any of the States, with a view to their reduction to a territorial condition;

Against proclamations from any source by which, under the plea of 'military necessity,' persons in States and Territories sustaining the Federal Government, and beyond necessary military lines, are held liable to the rigor and severity of military law;

Against the domination of the military over the civil law in States, Territories or Districts not in a state of insurrection;

Against all arrests without warrant; against the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus in States and Territories sustaining the Federal Government, 'where the public safety does not require it;' and against the assumption of power by any person to suspend such writ except under the express authority of Congress.

Against the creation of new States by the division of existing ones, or in any other manner not clearly authorized by the Constitution, and against the right of secession as practically admitted by the action of Congress in admitting as a new State a portion of the State of Virginia;

Against the power assumed in the proclamation of the President made January one, eighteen hundred and sixty three, by which all the slaves in certain States and parts of States, are forever set free; and against the expenditure of the public moneys for the emancipation of slaves or their support at any time, under any pretence whatever;

Against any and every exercise of power upon the part of the Federal Government that is not clearly given an expressed in the Federal Constitution—no asserting that 'the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited to it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.'

4. And be it resolved, That the unequivocal promptness with which New Jersey has responded to every call made by the President and Congress for men and means has been occasioned by no lurking animosity to the States of the South or the rights of her people; no disposition to

wrest from them any of their rights, privileges or property; but simply to assist in maintaining, as she has ever believed, and now believes to be her duty to do, the supremacy of the Federal Constitution; and, while abating naught in her devotion to the Union of the States and the dignity and power of the Federal Government, at no time since the commencement of the present war has this State been other than willing to terminate peacefully and honorably to all a war unnecessary in its origin, fraught with horror and suffering in its prosecution and necessarily dangerous to the liberties of all in its continuance.

5. And be it resolved, That the Legislature of the State of New Jersey believe that the appointment of Commissioners upon the part of the Federal Government to meet Commissioners similarly appointed by the insurgent States, to convene in some suitable place, for the purpose of considering whether any, and if any, what plan may be adopted, consistent with the honor and dignity of the national government, by which the present civil war may be brought to a close, is not inconsistent with the integrity, honor and dignity of the Federal Government, but, as an indication of the spirit which animates the adhering States, would, in any event, tend to strengthen in the opinion of other nations; and hoping, as we sincerely do, that the Southern States would reciprocate the peaceful indication thus evinced, and believing as we do, that under the blessing of God, great benefits would arise from such a conference, we most earnestly recommend the subject to the consideration of the Government of the United States and request its cooperation therein.

6. And be it resolved, That his Excellency, the Governor, be requested to forward copies of these resolutions to the Government of the United States, our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and to the Governors and Legislatures of our sister States, with the request that they give the subject proposed their serious and immediate attention.

7. And be it resolved, That the State of New Jersey pledge itself to such prompt action upon the subject of these resolutions as will give them practical effect, immediately upon the concurrence or co-operation of the Governors and Legislatures of sister States.

Okra the Best Substitute for Coffee.

Everybody, we presume, knows how to cultivate Okra. It is a most delicious table vegetable, and it appears from the following extract from a communication to the Southern Field and Fireside, written by Dr N. B. Cloud, late Editor of the 'Cotton Planter,' is pronounced the best substitute for Coffee. Read what the writer says and try the experiment.

In the caption of this article I have said 'Okra is the best substitute for coffee.'—Like every other family, perhaps, where the blockade rendered coffee so scarce in the country, that we had to give from 50 cents to a \$1.00 per pound for it, we began to cast about for a substitute, and we tried rice, ground-peas, corn meal, and potatoes, and finally, I concluded that we would try Okra seed. Mrs. Cloud had some washed and dried, preparatory for parching. We used about the same quantity by weight or measure, that we had formerly done of coffee. It was carefully parched, and the coffee made in the usual way, when we found it almost exactly like coffee in color, very pleasantly tasted and entirely agreeable. All other substitutes were laid aside, and the Okra has been used in my family for the last eighteen months; and for myself, I can say in all candor, prepared as our cook has it done, I should have no preference, at 10 cents per pound between Okra and Coffee. When well made and used with good rich cream and clarified sugar, it is delicate and finely flavored, entirely wholesome, of a rich golden color, and in all respects equal to the best Java Coffee, except the Coffee flavor, which may be imparted to it, if preferred, by grinding with the baked Okra seed, ten or twelve grains of baked Coffee, for each meal. Now every family of the Confederate States may make trial of the Okra at very trivial expense, when I am confident they will be pleased with every family may have as much of it as they may need raised at home. The Okra is of the same family of plants with cotton, (gossypium) and grows equally well in all latitudes and on all land, where cotton grows. An acre of good garden land will produce 500 pounds of the seed. I have given it a fair trial in my family, and I find it wholesome, nourishing, and perfectly healthy, nor has it any perceptible effects upon the nervous system, through which medium headache is often produced by Coffee, in many debilitated females, especially.

There are many varieties of the Okra; the most common are the long and short, green, the white, the purple, white, and the dwarf, (stalked) which bears pods of the pea-green color, often twelve to fifteen in ches; this is the best variety and the most productive. A quart of seed will plant an acre five by three feet, which will produce on good land, 500 pounds of seed. I planted on my own place last year two acres, and used it abundantly for all purposes from the first of May till frost, beside sending from one-half to one bushel to market every day, and we could have saved easily, 500 pounds of seed, as well as the quantity we did, sufficient for our family use.

Respectfully,
N. B. CLOUD,
Surgeon, P. A. C. S.
SAVANNAH, GA., Feb. 10th, 1863.

It is proper to remark here that, as soon as the Okra seed have colored, after being parched or baked they should be ground. It should be dried a day or two after being baked, before using, they become very hard. Be very small in quantity great care in baking them, otherwise they are liable to be burned.

Our Prisoners at Camp Douglas.

Among the prisoners brought up by the flag of truce last Monday, were some from the West, who have been confined at Camp Douglas, at Chicago. The very sight of the poor fellows is enough to strike pity to the heart. We wish the Government could bear their tales of suffering and distress, and we hope that they will take some step to lay their grievances before the authorities here.

Camp Douglas is worse than the Hole of Calcutta. Not satisfied with putting our men to death by suffering and torture, the Yankee demens have taken to poisoning them! The little things, such as pens and cakes, that our poor prisoners would buy out of their few remaining cents, had killed a number of our men, and on an investigation being ordered and the food analyzed, poison was plainly detected, and its presence admitted by the Yankee surgeons! The authorities tried to exculpate themselves by laying it to an old Irish woman who was permitted to peddle cakes among the prisoners.

The death of our men at Camp Douglas has been appalling. One of our prisoners estimates that in the short space of three months there were over 750 deaths. This was caused by a combination of causes—the low, wet and marshy situation of the camp, being half in water; the fifth and sixth of the prisoners who came up by the last flag of truce had languished there for nearly two years, and their dejected, sorrow-stricken and emaciated faces bore testimony of more than all they told of their suffering.

The suffering to which our brave men have been subjected by the demons is enough to melt the heart to tears. Even in the cold winter, when our prisoners were taken there from the West—in mid winter—they were thrown into prison, with nothing more than a pallet of wet straw as a bed, and without a particle of clothing to protect them from the cold and piercing blasts—and one who knows anything of Western life knows how fearfully they creep over the prairie. In all the cold our men lay exposed to the storm, cold and shivering, and benumbed. A cold snow storm came, and the result was that twenty-five or thirty of our men actually froze to death. We have this on reliable authority, and the story is substantially confirmed, in every particular, by an account which we published some time since from the Chicago Times.

On their way from the West, our prisoners were still objects of persecution and malignity of the Yankees, and were made to travel two live-long days without a morsel of food! They left at Camp Douglas about two thousand prisoners, who were to be exchanged, and were leaving in bodies of four and five hundred. It was hoped by our men that they would soon be out of the clutches of the demons who have lorded it over them with a tyranny and cruelty worse than that of the dark ages.—*Richmond Examiner 14th.*

THE SIEGE OF WASHINGTON.—The New York Herald of the 9th has letters from its correspondent, 12 miles below Washington, N. C. of the 1st and 2d inst., and from Newbern 3d inst. The writer admits that they were 'decidedly in a tight place,' and for himself should wish 'I was at home.' When Gen. Foster, then at Newbern, heard on the 29th of the investment of Washington, he started immediately for that place, and arrived on the 30th, only to find that the danger was even greater than he had anticipated. He sent for a brigade of infantry and some light field pieces, which were forthwith dispatched and arrived at a point on the river where they heard of the battery at Hill's Point, which they could not pass. The writer says, in his last letter:

"At daylight this morning the battery at Rodman's farm, opened fire from four guns on the Commodore Hull, which was lying in the stream about 700 yards distant. The Hull fought them for about an hour with her stern guns, when her officers found that the high wind was fast lowering the water in the river and it would be necessary to take a position in deeper water. Accordingly they moved about a mile nearer the town, when the vessel grounded, and as the water was still falling it became impossible to move her. She was within easy range of the enemy's batteries and remained so until after sundown, and was a fine target for other twelve hours. And right heartily did the rebel artillerists ply their guns upon her. Over seventy shots struck her. Her upper works are completely demolished, three of her guns have been disabled by the rebel shots, but strange to say, she has had but three men wounded and none killed during the entire action. Her machinery is all in perfect order and her hull is undamaged."

THE NORTHERN NECK OF VIRGINIA.—A correspondent writes that the Yankees have desolated the Northern Neck as far as they can. They have robbed from Stafford to Heathsville, destroying stock of every description, using and wasting grain in large quantities, which our commissaries ought to have bought and consumed last year; they have carried off immense numbers of horses and mules. All the plantations are in common. The fences and woods have been burnt wherever their pickets have been posted. Very few farmers are in condition to make corn during the present year, from want of labor, teams, farming utensils (ruthlessly burnt and destroyed), and inclosed fields.—*Richmond Whig.*

ANECDOTE OF QUEEN VICTORIA.—The following admirable trait in the character of the Queen may not be generally known. When Princess Victoria, she is said to have frequently amused herself by going incognito in a carriage to different shops, and derived great entertainment, when divested of the appendages attendant upon royalty, in observing as a passive spectator, the infinite variety of incidents and occupations with which London abounds.—Being one day at Handell & Bridge's, she observed, among many other objects that attracted attention, one that fixed it. This was a young lad intelligent lady, who was most sedulously employed in looking over different gold chains for the neck, which were alternately presented to her for inspection. After she had admired several, she asked the price of one which seemed to have peculiarly struck her fancy. The price was named. It was more than she imagined it would have been.

"Could it not be offered cheaper?" "Impossible!"

The young lady seemed disconcerted, examined the chain again, took it up, and then she laid it down a second time, appearing to part from it with reluctance. However, at length she admitted the price was far too high, chose a much cheaper, which she ordered to be sent home, and went away. The young Princess Victoria who had silently observed the different workings of the mind of the lady as displayed in her countenance, inquired who she was, and upon receiving satisfactory information, ordered the firm to pack up the gold chain which had so attracted her attention, with the one she had purchased, and send with a card signifying that the Princess Victoria was so well pleased with observing that the young lady, who had been so much taken with the beauty and workmanship of the chain, had yet so much the command of her passions as not to suffer them to overcome her prudence, that she, therefore, in token of her approval, desired her to accept the chain which she so much admired, in the hope that she would always persevere in that laudable line of conduct upon which female happiness so much depended.

MARTIAL LAW.—The House of Representatives on Wednesday last passed the Joint Resolutions, reported by Mr. Russell from the Committee on the Judiciary, as follows:

I. That Martial Law, in the sense of an arbitrary suspension of all the laws and civil jurisdictions, cannot exist within the Confederate States.

II. That Martial Law, in any sense, if it can exist within the Confederate States, can exist only by virtue of Legislative authority.

III. Military Law (for the government of the forces) is distinct from Martial Law and it is enacted by Congress in pursuance of the Constitution.

IV. Without martial law, military commanders may sometimes exert extraordinary powers at and near the places occupied by their troops, and may be justified by the nature and necessities of the service, and, therefore, by the laws authorizing the employment of the forces, but they assume the hazard of responsibility according to known principles of law.

V. For the security of liberty and the certainty of law, powers which are necessary to be conferred on the President or on military commanders in lieu of the laws of the Confederate States, ought to be conferred by distinct enactments.

The vote was—
Yeas—Messrs. Arrington, Asho, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boyce, Bridgers, H. W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Davidson, Davis, DeJarnett, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Garrett, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Herbert, Hodge, Holcomb, Marshall, McLean, Perkins, Ralls, Read, Russell, Saxton, Singleton, Smith, N. C., Strickland, Vest, Villero, Wright, of Ga., Wright, of Texas—45.

Nays—Messrs. Barksdale, Clark, Connor, Curran, Dargan, Dupre, Elliott, Ewing, Freeman, Graham, Hillton, Holt, Jones, Kennan, of Ga., Kenan of N. C., Lewis, Lyons, Machon, Martin, Miller, Stannett, Pugh, Royston, Swann, Trappe, Welch, Wilcox—27.

THE HOOD CHOLERA.—CORRECTION.—The article on the 'Hood Cholera,' published in our local column yesterday, contained a material error which should be corrected. It says it should have been stated, and is a sure preventive of the disease and not a cure of it. We misinterpreted Col. Wyatt, who said that upon giving his hogs this vegetable food, not only that was well at the time, but the disease, nor has he heard of it amongst them since—whereas before they were sickening and dying every day from it. If, therefore, the farmers, as recommended discover this terrible distemper amongst their swine, will give them turnips, tops and all, they will save all that have not been seized with it. The spread of it will be thus effectually and certainly stopped, which is surely a great desideratum in times like these, when it is so important to keep up and increase the supply of bacon and lard.

THE KEOKUK.—The Mercury of the 20th says: The naval officers attached to the U. S. steamer Chicago have paid frequent visits to the wreck of the sunken Keokuk. Access, thus far, has been obtained to the interior of one turret only; but quite a number of valuable and interesting trophies and relics have been brought off. Among these were three swords, a fine pistol, &c. Some of these articles have since been presented to artillery officers.

The sponge, rammer and elevating screw of one of the Keokuk's 11-inch guns, are at Fort Sumter.