

# THE GREENSBORO PATRIOT.

Volume XXVIII.

GREENSBORO, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1867.

Number 1,340.

## MARRIED.

At the residence of Mr. Burdell Johnson of Summitfield, on the morning of the 17th inst. W. O. DUNNELL, Esq., Mr. ROBERT HUTCHINS to Miss LUMAHAM F. MIDDLETON, all of Guilford.

By J. A. Davis, Esq., on the 21st day of March, 1867, Mr. GEO. W. STEPHENS, Esq., of Guilford, to Miss MARY ANN MARSHALL, of Guilford.

At the residence of the bride's father in this county on the evening of the 9th inst., by Rev. Joseph Cawsey, Mr. D. W. KIRKMAN, Esq., of Guilford, to Miss P. K. McCULLOCH, only daughter of Calvin McCulloch.

**LET YOUR TAXES.**—M. S. Shortwood, Esq., having been appointed to take the tax lists for the town of Guilford, Nos. 2 and 11) will attend in the office of the register in the Court House, during the week of April Superior Court, and thereafter, until the close of the month. These lists to poll or property tax will be well to attend to this, or they will be liable to be returned for double taxes.

**EDITOR OF THE PATRIOT.**—We very frequently receive letters from our Agents requesting to "pull" Gregory's Dyspeptic Mixture. We would just say in reply through this column that we are selling this remedy conscientiously for the benefit of the afflicted.

I had Dyspepsia thirty years ago, after having been under treatment by some of the celebrated Physicians of both Europe and America, after having spent hundreds of dollars unavailingly. I was finally cured by this mixture. I have hundreds and a daily receiving letters by every mail testifying to the fact. I have a perfect horror from what I have suffered of quacks and nostrums, and am proud to attempt swindling sick men for a little money. I tried the remedy, I found it good. I beg to assure you that I have no interest in it. I state the fact. I challenge the proof of all I say. I was born and raised at Charlotte, N. C., and am well known in this part of the State. I believe this is the best remedy known to the world for Dyspepsia, and I challenge the world for a finer record of both vendors and Medicine. Yours truly, Wm. GRAY, Charlotte, N. C.

**Proposals for Rebuilding of Greensboro Female College.**—The undersigned will receive Proposals at once for the rebuilding of Greensboro Female College. We invite Proposals for the whole work or for making the brick, laying the brick, or the wood work each separately. For information, apply to either of the undersigned. These proposals are invited until the 25th inst.

A. P. ECKLE, W. A. CALDWELL, S. STEEL, J. H. WILSON, W. BAIRDINGER, Building Com.

FARMER'S BANK OF NORTH CAROLINA, Greensboro, April 9th, 1867.

**By Order of the Directors.** I will sell to the highest bidder, at the Court House in Greensboro, at 2 o'clock, p. m., on Monday, the 23rd day of April, 1867, the Banking House and lot, situated on west market street, the Metropolitan Hotel and the Drug Store of J. P. Eckle, for the sales of said Farmers Bank, or their equivalent in United States currency at the time payment is made. The title and possession retained until the purchase money is paid in full. Also a large quantity of stock on hand. A credit of six months will be given, bond with approved security required. W. A. CALDWELL, Cashier.

**New Spring and Summer Goods.** SMITH & GILMER are now opening a large assortment of Spring and Summer Goods, at the Melrose Store House opposite the Metropolitan Hotel, and would invite their friends and the public generally to give them a call before purchasing.

**Notice.**—I will sell for cash at the residence of Andy Seacrest in Davidson county on Wednesday the 17th of April, 1867, the following property: one tract of land, containing 100 acres more or less, an interest in another tract of land near the farm, a valuable note. To be sold to satisfy a claim in favor of the United States. F. G. CASKY, Deputy Collector, 5th Dist. N. C.

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**TO THOSE WHO OWE US.** We hope those indebted to this office for subscriptions, advertising, &c., will make payments of the same at an early day. We are greatly in need of the various amounts due.

**PATRIOT.** GREENSBORO, N. C. FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1867.

**GREENSBORO FEMALE COLLEGE.**—The rebuilding of this institution is to be commenced at once. At a meeting of the subscribers for funds in the afternoon, held last Monday evening, it was determined to make an immediate assessment of twenty-five per cent. on the amount subscribed. An advertisement by the Building Committee, inviting proposals for the work may be found in our advertising columns.

**THE N. C. RAILROADS.**—We publish this week the report of the Committee appointed by the Legislature to examine into the affairs and management of the N. C. Railroad. The Report is quite lengthy; but we infer that many of our readers are interested in this subject. We hope, after this to give a greater variety of reading matter than we have been doing for some weeks past.

**GOLD NO LONGER "CURRENT," BUT "A COMMODITY."**—An important decision with reference to the payments of debts contracted upon the basis of a loan in gold and silver, by the tender of paper money, has just been rendered by the Supreme Court of New York.

In May, 1864, Wm. Hargrave executed his bond to Isaac Bronson in the penalty of \$8,000, conditioned to pay in gold and silver coin the standard by which the coins of the United States were regulated, with interest at the rate

of seven per cent. per annum. Certain property was mortgaged as collateral to secure the payment of the bond. The mortgaged property was sold, and payment was demanded of principal and interest in gold and silver. The Court decided that in spite of the express stipulations of the bond of 1864, the amount of the bond might be paid in legal tenders, holding that "an agreement to pay in gold cannot be legally enforced, though treating gold as a commodity, a contract for its purchase or sale is perfectly safe and proper." The decision is to the effect that the result of the Legal Tender act is that gold has practically ceased to be currency, and become exclusively a commodity.

**GLASS FRONT.**—Our enterprising townsman, Dr. Benbow, is making an extensive addition to his present building, which when finished will be the most handsome business house in the town, it being in a more modern style of architecture, with glass front. We are inclined to think Greensboro is not yet finished—not "finished" in any sense of the term—and especially that much employment may yet be found within its limits for carpenters and masons.

It is announced that Speaker Colfax will devote the greater portion of the Congressional recess in lecturing in various Northern States. It is said that the object is to keep him before the people and manufacture opinion in his favor with a view to his nomination as a Radical candidate for the Presidency.

The Cherokee Indians petition the Senate to ratify a treaty whereby they sell (to a private party) their so-called "neutral lands" (some 400,000 acres) in South-Eastern Kansas for \$1,000,000.

**AGAIN IN THE FIELD.**—Gen. Pope has issued his orders assuming command of the district to which he is assigned. We believe he does not date them on this occasion "in the saddle."

We are indebted to our friends of The Register for recent favors which we will be happy to reciprocate at any time.

**INSURANCE, CRIME, AND PATRIOTISM IN MASSACHUSETTS.**—The official records of Massachusetts show that there are not less than 25,000 adults in that State who can neither read nor write, and that about one in every twelve is either a pauper, vagrant, criminal, drunkard, or insane, or idiotic. So we learn from The Baltimore Gazette.

**DEATH OF HON. GEO. W. RANDOLPH.**—Hon. Geo. W. Randolph died at Edgemoor, the residence of his brother, in Albemarle county Virginia, on Wednesday last, the 3rd inst., in the fiftieth year of his age. He was a grandson of Thomas Jefferson, and distinguished during the late war as the Confederate Secretary of War. The deceased was a native of Virginia, and received a military education at the Virginia Military Institute. He also studied law, and at the outbreak of the war was pursuing his profession and ranked among the ablest speakers and debaters at the bar of Virginia. He was a gentleman of great purity of character.

The New York Evening Post, a leading Radical journal, says that the faith of the country is fully pledged that if the scheme is carried out honestly and fairly the reconstruction effected by it shall be recognized as valid and final.

At Wilmington last week a white man was convicted of man-slaughter and sentenced to be branded. Gen. Sickles prevented the execution of the sentence, considering that it came within the late enactment of Congress against maiming the person. The Court was asked to inflict some other punishment.

**THE SOUTH NOT RESPONSIBLE.**—The New York Times admits that the South does not become responsible for the Congressional plan of reconstruction by acting it. It says:

We do not see that the Southern States "become a party to" the legislation of Congress by accepting it as law and obeying its requirements. Congress has issued a law providing for elections, conventions and other acts in the re-organization of governments in the Southern States. That law may, or may not be constitutional; but the Southern people are not responsible for it. They were not "parties to it" in any sense. They did not vote for it; its validity does not depend on their accepting or assenting to it. It will go into effect, and the Southern State Governments will be organized under its provisions, whether they accept or reject it. All they do to is "submit to force." They take the law as they find it—as it is made for them by those who, for the time, have the power to make it.

They find a certain law in force—they are in no wise responsible for it—they had nothing to do with making it—they are merely the parties upon whom it is to take effect. They avail themselves of power which it puts in their hands, for their own protection against others whom it clothes with the same power.

**RELEGATION IN THE STATES OF NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA.**—We find the following order in the Charleston papers:

**HON. SECOND MILITARY DISTRICT.** North Carolina and South Carolina, Charleston, S. C., April 1, 1867.

General Orders No. 5.

When an election for district, county, municipal or town officers is required to take place, in accordance with the provisions of the local law, within the limits of any post in this command, Command Officers will promptly report to these headquarters the time and place of such election and the designation of the officers to be elected.

If the present incumbents be ineligible to hold office, or any objection exist, arising out of their subordination in office, to the continuance of their function, the facts will be reported by the Post Commander, with his suggestions, having in view the interests of the service and the welfare of the locality mentioned immediately concerned. By command of Major General D. B. SICKLES, J. W. CLOUS, Official; ALEX. MOORE, Aide-de-Camp.

**GOV. VANCE PARDONED.**—The people of the State will hail with pleasure the announcement that Ex-Gov. Vance has been pardoned. The Raleigh Sentinel says upon this subject:

We could make no announcement, which will be more gratifying to the people of North Carolina, except a few malcontents, than that furnished by our Washington telegram, that the Hon. Zebulon B. Vance has, upon the recommendation of many persons, been pardoned by the President. The news will be as grateful to our people; and as there is no redress for a State fellow-citizen. It is true Gov. Vance can

derive no immediate practical benefit from the pardon, yet it is pleasing to his friends to know that so many Northern men heretofore differing with him, united in soliciting his pardon, and the removal of even a technical imputation on his loyalty is a gratification.

We thank President Johnson for the act, and beg leave to assure him that there are other applicants for his clemency, whose pardon would be received by the people of this State with no less sincere pleasure.

## Appeal to the Supreme Court.

We learn that an important bill of complaint was filed to day with the Supreme Court of the United States on the part of Mississippi against Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, and General E. O. C. Ord. It sets out with showing the status of Mississippi as part of Georgia, which in 1862 to the United States, by which it was agreed that the territory should become a State "on the same footing as the original States in all respects whatsoever." The ordinance of 1787 was also applied to it, except as to slavery; and that contained the provisions that "the inhabitants of said territory shall always be entitled to the writ of habeas corpus, and of a trial by jury;" and "no man shall be deprived of his liberty or property but by his peers and the law of the land."

In pursuance thereof, an enabling act was passed, by which the said provisions were made "irrevocable," "without the consent of the United States." And on December 10, 1817, Mississippi was admitted as a State, under "irrevocable" and "unalterable" compacts, of which it is claimed the court should enforce the performance. It is averred that Mississippi is, and has ever been a State, with State constitution republican in form, and properly administered; that she acknowledges the Constitution as the supreme law, and claims her right to appeal to this court.

It is denied that it was ever possible for the people or the State, in its corporate capacity, to dissolve its connection with the United States, in view of the surrender of certain rights, and guarantees of the rights and privileges of a State; that any attempt so to do is a nullity, which the State has formally conceded; and further, that she cannot be expelled; nor is there any power to subject her to pains, penalties, and disabilities under the Constitution, and any disabilities imposed on citizens, except after jury trial, are contrary to the Constitution.

The State admits "that by the wrongful acts of parts of her citizens and the neglect of the Federal authorities to protect the loyal," her government became disorganized; but this is corrected by the people, who have re-organized a government, republican in form, which has secured her recognition as a State by Congress, the Executive, and, as is believed, by this court. Even if there were irregularities in these acts, they have been cured by the sovereign act of the people in voluntary assemblage.

The State showed her good faith in the election of Senators and Representatives, which have been excluded from Congress, though her people are compelled to pay taxes; and the remaining twenty-six States have passed an act, which is the special object of complaint, with a supplement, both being annexed to the bill. The preamble of the former affirms that there is no legal government there and in other Southern States, but the people, the only competent source of a State government, have organized and put one in operation.

These two acts annihilate the State, subordinate the civil to the military power, set a precedent for a military despotism which makes nought all the safeguards of liberty, and divides the South into military districts, where the will of a soldier is the law. On this entire point the language of the bill is very forcible. These acts, asserting the paramount authority of Congress to abolish or control the State governments, were passed by a two-thirds vote over the Executive vetoes, and are in process of enforcement by the President as a "mere ministerial duty." We here give the language of the bill:

"Now, complainant avers and charges, that the execution of said acts, by enforcing them in the manner therein provided, will cause and produce immediate and irreparable mischief in the States to which it applies, as must be manifest to the Court, in this, that they are repugnant to the Federal Constitution, and violate the spirit, the purpose, and the object of the compacts, between Georgia, Virginia and the United States; it will deprive the States of every attribute of State authority, and practically annihilate them as States, by converting them into subordinate dependencies; it will derange the whole system of internal or domestic affairs; it will annul their legislation, and subvert their whole judicial system, inasmuch as it declares that State government illegal; it may annul all contracts and titles to property made with reference to existing laws; it will deprive the people of their most sacred rights—their exemption from arrests save on evidence founded on affidavit, the right of the intervention of a grand jury, and the right of trial by jury—and establish military powers on the ruins of their constitutional rights. It will produce a train of irreparable mischiefs that may not be corrected for years, as the Court will readily perceive, and they can only be prevented by a very speedy application of the restraining powers of this Court. But, above all, these acts, if maintained, establish a precedent by which Congress, composed of a majority of States, may, at pleasure, exclude any State, or any number of States, from the American Union."

The bill further alleges that many legal questions will arise under these acts, which must be declared unconstitutional, leading to innumerable suits and incalculable mischief, as well as a total disorganization and state of anarchy.

It furthermore avers that the bill is filed as a bill, and in order to prevent endless litigation, otherwise sure to ensue. It declares this is done in good faith, and not from factious motives, but in the belief that these acts are not obligatory unless declared valid by the Court. But if so declared, they will be cheerfully obeyed; and as there is no redress for a State except through this court, it is prayed

that "said Andrew Johnson, and his officers and agents, appointed for that purpose, and especially General E. O. C. Ord, above named, be perpetually enjoined and restrained from executing said acts, and that powers of injunction and subpoena be issued, directed to the parties aforesaid, with any other relief that the court may deem proper." It is signed by the counsel for complainant W. L. Sharkey and R. J. Walker.—National Intelligencer, Saturday.

## Wirz Offered his Life if he Would Implicate Mr. Davis.

The astounding revelation made by Butler concerning the suppressed diary of Booth and the consequent official murder of an innocent woman, is followed by another little less astounding or disgraceful to the parties embraced in it, concerning the lawless trial and execution of the unfortunate Wirz. The disclosure is made in a letter from Washington to The New York World, bearing date March 27th.—It is as follows:

It is, perhaps, not generally known that during the incarceration of Wirz and Major Winder in the Capital Prison they occupied adjoining cells, and enjoyed facilities of communication, one to the other, by word of writing, through an aperture not observed, doubtless, by the jailer. No one was permitted to see either, unless by special privilege from the Secretary of War. On the night previous to the execution of Wirz three men entered his cell, of course by permission of Stanton, and proposed to him, that if he would agree to implicate Jeff. Davis in the alleged conspiracy to starve the Northern prisoners confined at Andersonville his life would be spared. Wirz replied that he would not spare his own life by sacrificing that of another innocent man. The parties thereupon left the cell, and Wirz immediately communicated all that transpired to Major Winder. The Major some time after met Mrs. Davis in New York, and revealed to her what is here stated, backing it up by an affidavit, which he gave her, and which she now holds. The trial of Davis would involve revelations which would shock humanity, and test to its fullest whether sense of justice or feeling of national pride is still left at the North. It is not unreasonable to presume that popular indignation would be aroused to a pitch that would render it unsafe for the concoctors of the vile plans devised to secure the sacrifice of Davis's life to prolong their residence among a people whose fame and character they so grossly outraged.

Should not the names of the trio who made this infamous proposition to Wirz be traced out by some means? If *Zie World* would initiate some movement to that end, it is probable that some light might be obtained which would fix the identity of these villains. The time is eminently auspicious for such an inquiry, now that the rogues are divulging each other's iniquities. It may be that Major Winder has some information which would give a clue to the names of the parties.—If he has, he should be induced to furnish it and then the wretches should be held up to the universal scorn and contempt they so richly merit.

It seems very difficult for many persons to understand the Reconstruction Acts and the Howard Amendment which operates with those Acts. Many who are clearly entitled to vote seem to think that they are disfranchised because they were in the Confederate army or supported the Confederacy with their means and influence. This misunderstanding is not confined to illiterate persons, but prevails to some extent among the more intelligent class.

This is the only test of voters: Did you before the war hold any office under the United States, or serve as a member of the Legislature, or hold any Judicial or Executive office under the State, and afterwards supported and aided the Confederacy? If you did not, you are entitled to vote—if you did, you are not entitled to vote.

When you go to offer your vote at the coming reconstruction elections, the Reconstruction Act prescribes that you shall take an oath that you are not disfranchised as above indicated. That's all.—Charlotte Democrat.

**UNRAVELING.**—A man coming home late one evening, a little more than "half seas over," feeling thirsty, procured a glass of water and drank it. In doing so, he swallowed a small ball of silk that lay in the bottom of the tumbler, the end catching in his teeth. Feeling something in his mouth, and not knowing what it was, he began pulling at the end, and the little ball unraveling he soon had several feet in his hands, and still no end, apparently. Terrified, he shouted, at the top of his voice: "Wife! wife! I say wife! come here! I am unraveling!"

General Sickles has produced a favorable impression all over his command. He holds forth in Charleston, though his first order was dated Columbia. It is reasonable to hope that, under the administration of such gentlemanly officers, our people will readily acquiesce in the situation, and make the best of it; if so, our better days may not be so very far off. If we had less politics we should get on infinitely better.—Yorkville Enquirer.

**EMIGRANTS FROM NORTH CAROLINA TO VENEZUELA.**—The schooner United States sailed yesterday for Venezuela with a cargo of about fifteen living souls, destined to settle "for better, for worse," in that yet untried land. The scheme did not prove popular here, and a number of those who were induced to venture their lives were poor miserable creatures who had worn threadbare in this country, and could not be much worse off anywhere.—An equal proportion were reckless, dissipated adventurers, some of whom are happy riddances. There were only a few well-to-do, intelligent-looking people in the party.—Wilmington Dispatch.

## FROM WASHINGTON.

**WASHINGTON, April 9.**—Hon. Theodore C. Peters, of Maryland, late President of the New York Agricultural College, has been appointed agent for distributing seed South, perfecting Southern agricultural correspondence, &c.

The Senate to-day passed a resolution directing the Secretary of War to report the names and rank of volunteer officers now in service, what law they are retained under, and whether their being mustered out would be detrimental to the service.

A new standing rule was introduced, that all resolutions calling on the President and heads of Departments for information shall go to standing committees.

The Cabinet session to-day was prolonged till two o'clock.

The people of Maryland vote to-morrow for or against a convention, and the Baltimoreans vote on the Sunday street car question. The Democrats and Conservatives have carried Hagerstown, Md., municipal election.

Major Charles A. Morgan has been placed in command of Fort Delaware.

General Sol. Meredith has been confirmed Surveyor General of Montana, the vote rejecting him having been reconsidered.

The internal revenue receipts to-day were over \$700,000.

The Russian treaty was favorably reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, briefly discussed and ratified with but two nays.

The President has nominated John P. Stockton for the Austrian mission, and Colonel Caperton, of Illinois, for the Agricultural Commissioner.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Chandler, is quiet sick.

The President has pardoned Z. B. Vance, of North Carolina on the recommendation of 12 Senators and 30 Representatives and Governors Bramlette, of Kentucky, Sharkey and Parsons, and Mayor Hoffman of New York.

An invitation to George Peabody, to attend a meeting of the Charleston Board of Trade, has been accepted.

The sloop Simonton, recently sunk in York river, has been raised.

The fire in Petrolia, Canada West, last Saturday, burnt to death two girls, one 8 and the other 21 years old.

**Affairs in North Carolina and South Carolina.**

**CHARLESTON, April 9.**—In the conference between General Sickles and Governor Worth and Orr, the preliminaries of reorganization were settled as follows:

The details of registration will be immediately prepared by General Sickles and put into operation as soon as qualified persons can be found to act. No election will be held in either North or South Carolina until a convention shall be held, except for members of the Convention. Whenever vacancies in office shall occur the government will appoint persons to fill such as are filled by the General Assemblies, if there is no special reason to the contrary, and the General will appoint to fill vacancies to such offices as are filled by the popular suffrage.

**WESTERN RAILROAD.**—A meeting of the Stockholders of the Western Railroad Company, in this place on Saturday, 30th March, elected the following officers for the present year:

C. B. Mallett, President; Col. H. H. Waugh, of Surry Co., Col. J. T. Morehead, of Greensboro, M. S. Robins, of Randolph and A. A. McKethan, of Fayetteville, Directors on the part of the State, and Arch'd McLean, T. S. Lutterloh, H. L. Myrover, J. D. Williams and Wm. McL. McKay, Directors on the part of the Stockholders.

Their action in reference to the extension of the road is contained in the following resolution, which was adopted:

**Resolved,** That the President and Directors be instructed to proceed to the construction of the road from Egypt to a point common to the several proposed lines to Greensboro, High Point and Thomasville: *Provided,* the means can be obtained to carry on the work, and that they have the Engineer make an approximate estimate (without actual survey) of the distance, cost of construction and advantages from such common point to Greensboro, High Point and Thomasville, and also from Greensboro, High Point and Thomasville, to a common point near Salem, in the direction of Mt. Airy; and that they also ascertain what amount of aid can be had by subscription or otherwise on each line, and that so soon as such information can be obtained, a meeting of the Stockholders be called, and the results submitted to them.—Fayetteville Presbyterian.

**GOV. WORTH AT CHARLESTON.**—Our telegraphic dispatches, to-day furnish gratifying intelligence as to the nature and result of the conference, at Charleston, between Govs. Worth and Orr and Gen. Sickles. We have private information that the official interviews between these gentlemen were of the most satisfactory and harmonious character, and that the District commander exhibited a highly courteous and liberal spirit.

Gov. Worth has not yet returned to this city. As soon as he does so, he will doubtless make known, in some form, the arrangements which have been agreed upon relative to the work of re-organization.

Gov. Worth visited Charleston at the invitation of Gen. Sickles. He reached that City on Saturday last, and was met at the Depot by two Aides on the General's Staff, and conducted to the residence of Gen. Sickles, whose guest he was solicited to become.

The Governor was honored by a splendid dinner, at the Mills House, given by his Excellency Gov. Orr, "in compliment to the Old North State," at which were present Gen. Sickles and the other chief officers of the Army stationed in Charleston.

On Monday morning, Gen. Tyler gave an excursion, on the bay, to Forts Sumter and Pickens, and at 4 P. M. Gen. Sickles

gave a complimentary dinner to Governors Orr and Worth, at which the best cheer and the finest feeling prevailed, and a number of leading gentlemen were present.—Raleigh Sentinel.

**Correspondence of the Baltimore Gazette.**

**The Southern Injunction Against the Military Satrap Bill.**

**WASHINGTON, April 5.**—A bill was filed this morning with the Supreme Court, in which the State of Mississippi is the complainant, praying an injunction to prevent the infliction upon that State of the provisions of the military acts recently passed by Congress. It was received and ordered to be printed.

I cannot say that there is much, if any diversity of opinion among well informed men here in respect to this movement.—Doubtless, there is much to be said in justification of the course which patriotic citizens, smarting under tolerable oppression, have deemed it their imperative duty to pursue. No one doubts the sincerity of righteousness of this action. But is this a time to try constitutional questions? That is the point.

It is notorious that a decision of the Supreme Court, if favorable to the complainant, would be treated on all sides as having power with utter contempt. Every other branch of the Government would regard it as so much waste paper, and thereby sink still lower the authority of the judicial department. Have we not seen the decisions of this tribunal in respect to the test oath and judgments of military courts entirely repudiated by Congress and the Executive? Is not the infamous test oath still administered by the officials in Congress—in every executive department of the Government, and in subordinate judicial tribunals? Are not Dr. Mudd and his fellow-sufferers still incarcerated at the Dry Tortugas, sentenced by a conclusive pronouncement by this very court—the highest court of judicature in the country—to have been assembled in utter violation of law? Are not hundreds of others at this moment suffering punishment inflicted by similar unauthorized gatherings after a solemn decision of the illegality of this conviction delivered six months ago? What, then, is to be gained by even a favorable judgment under such circumstances?

But does not this new move "press the mourners" a little too hard? Do we not know that the men composing this august tribunal are veritable flesh and blood, liable to be operated upon by the influences which, unfortunately, at this insane moment prevail universally from the Aristotle to Mason and Dixon's line? Is it to be supposed that the result of the Constitutional election has so far paralyzed the Radical arm as to secure the very organization of the Court itself, in a matter of this momentous importance, it should run counter to the wishes of a controlling and unscrupulous power? Without further beating the bush, is there not very great danger that the Court will be coerced by fear of losing their places and power for future good to give a decision adverse to the petition, which could not be but decide hereafter in better days? In the minds of thoughtful men, therefore it would have been better to have postponed such a proceeding until, at least, some respect would be likely to be paid to the authority of the Court's own members, and by somebody having power, coupled with the inclination to carry their judgment into effect. The moral influence of a decision, one way or the other, is not worth a rush.

**More Internal Revenue Decisions.**

**DEDUCTIONS FROM INCOME FOR INSURANCE.**

Payments on account of insurance of property, but not of life or against accidents to persons, are proper deductions in ascertaining the profits from business or property. But when the profits are determined and reported in the return of income, no further deduction on account of insurance can be allowed. Losses in business by fire, less the insurance received, are proper deductions in determining profits.

**INCOME OF DECEDENTS.**

No income tax accrues on the income or upon the estate of a person who shall have died between January 1, 1866, and December 31, 1866. The executors and administrators cannot be required to make returns of income from the estate of such decedents, but succession or legacy tax may accrue, and should be exacted, and the annuitants must return their receipts as income.

**GOOD FOR MILLINERS AND DRESSMAKERS.**

When hats, caps, bonnets, and hoods are made by a milliner or dressmaker, they are exempt. The amendatory act makes no change in this respect. Clothing or articles of dress not specially enumerated, made by sewing, for the wear of men, women, or children, from cloth and fabrics on which a tax or duty has been paid, are exempt.

**NOT SO GOOD.**

(1st) On hats, caps, bonnets, and hoods of all descriptions, two per cent. *ad valorem* [unless made by as above.]

(2nd) On clothing or articles of dress for the wear of men, women, or children, made by weaving, knitting, or felting, from wool, or of which wool is the chief component material, or the component material of chief value, the tax is two and one-half (2 1/2) per cent. *ad valorem*.

(3rd) On clothing, or articles of dress, &c., made by weaving, knitting, or felting, from materials other than wool, or of which wool is not the chief component material, or not the component material of chief value, the tax is five (5) per cent. *ad valorem*.

(4th) On clothing, or articles of wearing apparel manufactured or produced from India rubber, gutta percha, or from fur, or fur skins dressed with the fur on, the tax is five per cent., except articles made of fur, the value of which does not exceed twenty dollars (\$20.) in which case the tax is two per cent.

(5th) On gloves, mittens, and moccasins the tax is two, two and half, or five per cent. *ad valorem*, according to the material of which they are made, and the mode of making them.

From The London Spectator, March 23.

**The "Gangs" of Rural England.**

About fifty years ago prices for corn being very high, the land owners of the district of Lincolnshire, near Louth, began enclosing the Fen on a great scale.—Cottages not paying, they did not build many, and the farmers gradually collected bands of children of both sexes, and set them to work under an overseer. The system was found profitable, particularly to owners of close parishes, who were thus enabled to pull down cottages and so completely abolish poor rates, and it gradually spread over other parts of the county, and then into parts of Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Nottinghamshire, till it became a regular trade. Men out of work, or without characters, or Nomad by instinct, went about from village to village, hiring children at so much a week, and then letting them out to the farmers at an advanced but still moderate rate, till at the present time, it is believed that upwards of three hundred of these "public gangs" are in existence, each with its gang-master and about twenty children of both sexes. The farmers, moreover, finding the supply of cheap and organized labor convenient, adopted the system for themselves, and organized private gangs among their own cottagers, till the total number of children thus employed amounted to several thousands more. Certain evils connected with the practice seem at last to have struck the local clergy. Parliament was induced to stir, and the Home Office ordered an official inquiry into the system. The report of the Commissioners has been received and printed with the evidence, and the latter confirms the worst stories current. The gang system, as at present carried on in these counties, is declared by all kinds of classes—clergymen, farmers, laborers, old gang-masters, mothers of girls who are in the gangs, and decent laborers' wives—to be fatal alike to health, to civilization, and to morality. Children of both sexes and all ages, from five to sixteen, are, in fact, sold to the wretched laborers to the gang-masters at so much per head per week, generally we are bound to add, out of the direct poverty. The gangster having collected his children, takes them away to his job, forcing them to walk, or if needful, to carry each other, for distances which often involve of themselves great cruelty. Five miles out and five back is thought nothing of, in addition to almost continuous labor for at least ten hours a day. This labor is generally weeding or picking stones, perhaps the most exhausting kinds of toil a child can be called on to perform. The laborers in many English parishes are coarse enough, but among these poor wretches civilization disappears. Upon this point there is an overwhelming consensus of evidence, even from the few farmers who pronounce that the system is indispensable to their tillage. The single amusement is obscene talk, which becomes so shocking that the very laborers are revolted, and declare they would sooner turn out of the road than meet the gangs returning. All the offices of nature, say twenty witnesses, are performed in public by both sexes, without the faintest effort at concealment. Boys and girls of all ages bathe together stark naked, and the most infamous actions are boasted of with a shamelessness rarely found among savages. The gangs are the special resort of all girls who have lost their characters, and the gang-masters often set themselves to deliberate corruption. One witness, a bookseller, who had belonged to one of these gangs, informed the Commissioner distinctly that the gangsters set the children to sing obscene songs to enliven the long road home, and it is clear, from all manner of incidental testimony, that the system is indispensable to their tillage. The single amusement is obscene talk, which becomes so shocking that the very laborers are revolted, and declare they would sooner turn out of the road than meet the gangs returning. All the offices of nature, say twenty witnesses, are performed in public by both sexes, without the faintest effort at concealment. Boys and girls of all ages bathe together stark naked, and the most infamous actions are boasted of with a shamelessness rarely found among savages. The gangs are the special resort of all girls who have lost their characters, and the gang-masters often set themselves to deliberate corruption. 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