

A Word To Our Friends.

We have been sending our Weekly Paper to many subscribers on the books of the old firm, hoping to hear from them.

We hope soon to have in our power to announce the resumption of the principal portion of the mail routes, so that our paper can reach at least the most of its old friends with greater facility than at present.

Will our friends in the country exert themselves a little in our behalf?

"I do not like you, Doctor Fell, The reason why, I cannot tell; But this indeed, I know full well, I do not like you, Doctor Fell."

Though the people of New England received support from the South in what was peculiarly their quarrel—the revolutionary war; though for years they were enriched by their trade with the South, exchanging codfish, cheese, ice, onions, and wooden ware for cotton, tobacco, rice and naval stores, articles in demand in every market in the world; though the South furnished a genial home for many of their surplus population, who year by year interpenetrated and became amalgamated with Southern society; still they cherish a blind, unreasoning hatred of the South.

No arguments founded on facts or policy can reach them, though they be conclusive as a demonstration in Euclid, for "there are none so blind as they who will not see." Puritan obstinacy when late is its element, is incurable. They have been, for generations, educated in hatred of Southern men, nor has their gallantry revolted at teaching hatred of Southern women.

Is there to be no end to this warfare? Does the prostration of the South, the wail from countless stricken hearths, excite no compassion, awake no generous sentiment? We fear not. They gloat upon our ruin with savage triumph; they insist upon the Freedman's Bureau, because they know it to be a thorn in our flesh; they send us school teachers, and commend them to our good offices by the declaration—"we do not send them to instruct white children whom we have made orphans, and reduced to poverty, but to educate the blacks to self-assertion, and in conformity with the New England views; they urge that the large military force encamped in our territory be retained to keep us in salutary awe; and they forbid the voice of complaint to be heard, by the exclusion of our members from Congress.

No sane man, no intelligent observer, believes that there is in the South any disposition to excite a second revolt against the United States, much less any secret organization, to contrive mischief and plot destruction. Such an idea can only be, in verity, the spectre of a disordered imagination. New England pretends there is such a secret organization—it is a part of their capital in trade as politicians, and may well pass current in a region noted for the success of "gift enterprises," "bogus banks," "sham philanthropy, and patent medicines. If the fiction serve to defeat the noble aspirations and patriotic purposes of the President, they are content.

The rank and file of our late army had become, before the end of the war, weary and disgusted with service. The volunteer and conscript felt himself degraded into "the common soldier" by those who bore commissions, and even by city snobs. Officers began to regard themselves as constituting a distinct caste; and etiquette forbade all social intercourse between the officer and "enlisted man," even though children of the same parents, and though the latter was not on duty. The surgeon who sat by the bedside of the sick soldier, to soothe by his sympathy, violated the prejudices of his class, and became a fit subject for discipline. We once heard it objected to a gallant officer that "he kept company with privates." The soldier was badly clad, his rations scanty and inferior, because of the inability of the Confederacy to procure supplies, and the roguery of its agents, quartermasters, commissaries, &c., while funds destined for his pay were often diverted to purposes of illicit gain.

The soldier pined for home and the embrace of his neglected family. It is well known that in the last year of the war veterans did not fight with the "glamour" of their earlier campaigns, and deserted their standards in numbers. Many could not conceive any slavery more intolerable than service—to continue faithful to the end, as thousands did, required a virtue almost superhuman, and a patriotism which has never been excelled.

Now these men, the rank and file, constitute the great bulk of our fighting men. They desire repose; and so far from panting for new battle fields, to be contested with the soldiers of Uncle Sam, we do not believe a corporal's guard could be mustered among them to resist his authority, or to essay a new revolution. There may be some few officers, to be regarded not as proceeding from the people, not of the people, but as "adventurers," who lament the loss of rank, because of its emolument and consequence, and pomp, and who would gladly cast their lives again in troubled waters, but they are powerless.

We look confidently, hopefully to the future.—It would be indeed, a sorry prospect were it not for the cloud that looms on the horizon, and athwart which flashes ever and anon the yet harmless lightning of Stevens and Sumner, and Fred Douglass. We have faith in the sober second thought of the people; and we believe the virtue of a reunited and intelligent Democracy, the sun of our system, will soon dissipate its vapors, and leave not a "rack behind." The cry of the soldier in the hour of our final defeat, in his despair and pride, may have been "Tant est perdu, sans l'honneur;" but we have left more than honor; we still possess a region noted for fertility and the industry and intelligence necessary to stimulate its production to the highest degree. Our people in their adaptability to their changed condition display a pleasing versatility of talent and flexibility of character. Gentlemen dignify the humblest employment by their signal integrity and refined manners. Under the stimulus of necessity, manufactures and products, varied and numberless, are poured into our markets.

Wilmington exhibits a most gratifying vitality; every store and dwelling occupied, streets filled with an active population, wharves lined with shipping—everywhere the bustle and stir of prosperous trade. Some we know regard this apparent prosperity but as the hectic which precedes dissolution. We think differently. Admit the States of the South fully and substantially into the Union, withdraw the Freedman's Bureau, and despite of losses, vexations and embarrassments, all will be well in the future.

The Civil Rights Bill.

This unconstitutional measure, which has been pending before Congress for some time, has finally passed that body and is now in the hands of the President. The Republicans seem determined to provoke another veto, and we are glad to see from Washington letter writers that it will soon be forthcoming.

That the President would veto this measure seemed a foregone conclusion, when we consider his respect for the Constitution and courage to oppose the overwhelming majority by which Congress is controlled, as shown by his official action in his late, and in his boldly expressed opinions in his late speech.

The bill is a very proper one to be passed by the present Congress. A party which has shown such utter disregard to all law and its determination to force negro equality upon the South, by overriding all constitutional restraints, would hardly be checked by one veto by the President, although the reasoning in that message will apply with equal force to this bill. It will be seen that this measure is but the second of a series of assaults upon the firmness of Mr. Johnson by the Radicals, and they will leave no means untried to carry out their purposes to its legitimate conclusion.

The President doubtless does not desire these issues, but come as often as they may, we believe he will meet them all as he has the first. The question will become one of courage between him and the radical leaders, the President supported on the one hand, by the Constitution and the loyal people of the United States, and the Radical leaders on the other by their conscious strength in Congress, and by northern fanatical majorities.

So closely and unanswerably does the reasoning of his veto message meet the unconstitutionality of this bill, that it would appear as if it passed in order to humiliate the President by carrying it over his veto, or fearful of his popularity at the North, to force him into some position, they could use to his disadvantage and by means of which they could influence the ensuing elections.

The measures proposed by the bill are such as belong to the jurisdiction of State governments solely, and have constituted one of the principal features of legislation in all the Southern States, during the past winter, with the exception of Texas, whose Legislature has not yet convened; and such civil rights have been conferred upon the negro in all, as was regarded due them under their changed condition, influenced by an honest desire for their present good and future welfare, and as was warranted by their intelligence.

The people of the South are more interested in the negro than the Northern people can possibly be. They are domiciled amongst us and must necessarily here remain. Our lands comprise nearly the whole remaining wealth of the South, which will be valueless without cheap and reliable labor, and self-interest alone would control us to grant what justice demanded for our laboring population. The Civil Rights bill, therefore, is as unnecessary and hurtful as it is unconstitutional and factious.

Southern Trade with Europe.

We call attention to the following from the Richmond Enquirer in reference to the inauguration of a direct trade between Norfolk and Liverpool. Our people will surely not fail to avail themselves of the peculiar advantages offered by this line, and by a timely support of the enterprise, sustain an enterprise of so much importance to us.

Direct Trade with Europe.

The sailing of the splendid steamer, the "Ephesus," of three thousand tons, from Norfolk for Liverpool, on the 10th of April, as advertised in another column, looks more like the direct trade to Europe of which we have long talked, and for which we have long wished, than anything we have heretofore had the pleasure of announcing. The enterprise has been organized on a most substantial basis, British capitalists of the necessary energy and ample means, being identified with it.

The "Ephesus" is the pioneer steamer; to be reinforced or replaced in the coming autumn by two steamers of the very first class, which will together constitute a regular monthly line in each direction, between Norfolk and Liverpool. The amount of trade between the present time and the securing of the crops of the current year, cannot be very large, and the "Ephesus" is placed upon the line at some hazard of full cargoes in the interim, in order to assure the people of its establishment as a fixed fact, and to give them familiarity with it, ere the time arrives when the full tide of trade may be expected.

Unusual accommodations are afforded by this line to small shippers. Even those who are without foreign correspondents can ship a hogshead of tobacco or a bale of cotton, or articles of commerce of any kind, and the sale will be attended to and the proceeds invested as directed, by the agents. This is an advantage which will attract business to the line, and widen the circle of its friends.

Arrangements have been effected with the railroads leading South and Southwest, for moving cotton and other articles of export, with expedition and on the best terms, and every provision made which means and forecast could contrive, for making the enterprise a complete success. We bespeak for it, what we are sure it will require, the universal favor and the patronage of our people. It is an enterprise of immense importance to us, in numerous ways; a truth which has been so frequently elaborated, and is so well understood, that we forbear at present to dwell upon it.

St. Patrick's Day.

The anniversary of the Patron Saint of the "Emerald Isle," was celebrated with much spirit on Saturday by the Hibernian Association of this city. A procession under the command of James McCormick, Esq., Chief Marshal, was formed at the City Hall, and preceded by a band of music, marched in fine style through the principal streets; each member wearing a neat badge, and the Harp of Erin waving proudly in the breeze. They proceeded to St. Thomas' Church, where a finished oration was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Corcoran. At night the association, with numerous invited guests sat down to an elegant supper where wit, conviviality and generous sentiment gave zest to the entertainment, and all went "merry as a marriage bell," save when we gazed upon the emblem of Ireland's nationality and remembered that—

"The Harp that once thro' Tara's halls The soul of music shed, Still hangs as mute on Tara's walls As if that soul had fled."

However, it was a most pleasing and gratifying display, well gotten up and well executed, and we are obliged to our friends of the Association for their courtesy and attention.

The Courts and the Freedmen's Bureau.

We have delayed noticing the interference by the officers of the Freedmen's Bureau, with the execution of the sentence of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for this county, on Saturday last, from no disposition to sanction what we are compelled to regard as a violation of orders on the part of those officials, but in order to do them no injustice by unnecessary haste.

The letter of Col. Beadle, which we publish elsewhere, makes it necessary for us, as public journalists, to notice a transaction which we, in common with our citizens, greatly regret, and which will, no doubt, be condemned by the authorities, when it comes before them for consideration.

The facts, as we understand them, are these: There being several negroes to be tried by Court for larceny, Wm. A. Wright, Esq., the presiding Justice of the Court, called upon Col. Beadle, specially in reference to their punishment, as did Mr. Holmes, the State's Attorney, upon Major Wickersham, for the same purpose. Each were assured by these officers, that no interference would be made by their authority, provided the testimony of negroes were permitted, and in case of their conviction, the same punishment would be inflicted as upon white persons, for a similar offence. They were positively assured by both of these gentlemen that such would be the case.

And here we will state that Col. Beadle must certainly have misunderstood Mr. Wright, in supposing he called upon him to see if the necessity of whipping could not be obviated, for that gentleman knew what the law demanded as a punishment for larceny, and his oath required him to execute it. The inquiry of Mr. Wright must have had reference to offences of less grade, the punishment of which extended only to fines and imprisonment, in order, if possible, to avoid what would be useless punishment to the abandoned creatures who fill our State dockets, and also to save the costs of the prosecutions to the county.

When the negroes were tried, one of the first legal gentlemen of our bar was assigned as counsel, and he made an able and honest endeavor to acquit them. The negroes were granted the right, as has always been the case in our Courts, when negroes are defendants, to introduce negro testimony, but in these particular cases, they declined to do so, and several of them were duly convicted of larceny and sentenced to be whipped.

The sentence was executed on five of them, and shortly thereafter, two armed soldiers, followed by several highly excited negroes, marched into the Court House while the Court was in session, and upon the demand of the Chairman, stated their orders were to arrest the Sheriff, and the written order being required, they retired, having only verbal orders.

Mr. Wright, after consulting with the other members of the Court, immediately waited on Colonel Beadle at his office, and that officer subsequently addressed a note to the Court, asking a suspension of the punishment until he could receive further instructions from Raleigh.

We are extremely gratified to see by Colonel Beadle's letter that Major Wickersham did not order the arrest of the Sheriff, but that his armed guard was only sent to direct the whipping to be suspended, and we are still more gratified to learn that the armed men in the Court room, was not designed, and no intention to interfere with the operations of the Court was desired.

It is sincerely to be regretted that the officers in question should not have been directed by the circular order from Colonel Whittlesey, under date of Feb'y 16, 1866, which says:

"To avoid all conflict of jurisdiction between the civil Courts and officers of this Bureau, the following instructions are published: 1. In all cases of breaches of criminal law by freedmen, no objection will be made to trial by civil Courts, the testimony of colored witnesses being by law admitted; provided, that punishments for crime are necessarily the same for whites and blacks."

and to have permitted themselves to be governed by an order, bearing date Jan. 2, 1866, which prohibits whippings, and which is consequently rescinded by the later order.

It is to be regretted further, that the officers should have acted so hastily, upon the false statement of a negro, who made the charge from the rumors aloft in an excited crowd, when they had been positively assured by the Chairman and County Attorney, that the negroes should have a fair trial and be allowed the benefit of any and all witnesses they might wish to introduce, which was only such rights as have always been accorded to the negro by our law.

We regret further, that the law was not permitted to be executed here, as it has been in other counties of the State. In Cumberland, Judge Buxton recently sentenced negroes to be whipped for a similar offence, and the punishment was inflicted without interference by the officers of the Bureau.

In Orange county, at the session of the Superior Court, held last week, almost under the eye of Col. Whittlesey, we learn from a correspondent of the Raleigh Sentinel, "that twelve persons, two white and ten colored, were tried for larceny. In each case, the accused had the benefit of able counsel and an impartial trial. One only (a black) was acquitted, and the others, both white and black, received from 10 to 30 lashes each, which we will venture to say will have a very beneficial effect in securing our community from the many and vexatious annoyances to which we have been subjected. If the law should be as impartially and rigorously carried out in other counties, the wholesome influence resulting therefrom, will soon restore the former good name which our State enjoyed for honesty."

We cannot believe that it is intended that negroes are to go unpunished here, and are to be properly punished elsewhere, and are compelled to believe that the officers here, in the excess of zeal for the welfare of those committed to their care, have overstepped their authority, and we honestly think have acted contrary to the best interests of the community and of the negro population. And while we very readily accept the statement of Colonel Beadle, that he acted as he thought his duty required, and in good faith toward the Court, we still think, that the matter should be brought to the attention of the President, for the interests at stake and the damages done are too great to be left to the uncertain construction of subordinates of any department of the Government.

Measures.

It is stated on the outside of this paper that the remains of Edw'd Graham Meares arrived here on Saturday morning. They did not arrive until Sunday, and the funeral took place that afternoon at half-past 4 o'clock, from St. James' Church.

We have the heart to speak the language of envy while contemplating the death of poor "EDDIE." We knew him well, but we can do so without invading the sanctity of private life.—We will therefore, content ourselves with saying that he was one of eight gentlemen born to his mother; and one of two who fell fighting for his country. May they rest in peace, is our heartfelt humble prayer.

We entirely and heartily concur in the Sentinel's endorsement of the subjoined Board of Supervisors for the Insane Asylum.

The Legislature, at its late session, in order to the better management of the Insane Asylum, passed a bill placing the Institution directly under the management of the Governor and a Board of Supervisors, five in number, the Governor being ex officio the President of the Board.

In accordance with the law he has therefore made the following appointments for the Board of Supervisors:

- GEORGE W. MORDECAI, Esq., Hon. THOS. BRAGG, CHARLES DEWEY, Esq., T. H. SELBY, Esq., Dr. E. BOBBS HAYWOOD, M.D.

Better selections, we think, could not have been made.

ALMOST A DIFFICULTY.—A good deal of excitement was occasioned yesterday afternoon by the arrest of two colored soldiers, of the 37th U. S. C. T., by our city police, and the demand made for the surrender of the prisoners by two officers of said regiment. The whole affair, which laid fair at one time to become a conflict between the two powers, originated, we may say, through a misunderstanding on both sides.

The colored soldiers were arrested for violating one of the city ordinances and were accordingly lodged in the cage. Shortly after being placed in safe quarters a demand was made for them, by two officers of their regiment, that they be turned over to the military authorities. Our Marshal, who, by the way, is a very determined and gentlemanly man, and is disposed to do anything which is proper and just, and who believes in doing his duty, objected to these proceedings unless proper written authority was shown, either of these officers being in command of the post.

To this they objected, saying that they did not see that they were called upon to produce the authority for their actions; but subsequently a compromise was made by the men being sent back to the cell, while the officers went to produce their authority. An order from the commandant of the post was finally shown to the Marshal, who cheerfully released the prisoners to the military, who we understand took charge of, and will prefer charges against them, for conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline.

Southern Railroads.

The New York Weekman thus speaks of the great lines of Railroad running North and South, through our city:

It seems that with the exception of about fifteen miles of staging between Branchville and Augusta, (which gap is being closed up at the rate of three miles per week,) rail communication between New York, Montgomery, Mobile, and all points in the South and South West, via the Great Atlantic Seaboard Route, is now complete. The Roanoke river at Weldon, it is true, has to be ferried, but the arrangements are very complete, and but little time is required. The bridge over that river at this point is about eighteen hundred feet in length of March, and the ferry of the river obviated. A person buying a through ticket can leave New York in the eight A. M. train from Jersey City, and go through with great comfort to Wilmington, N. C., in forty-six hours, having choice of routes via Washington, Richmond, Petersburg, Raleigh, or by the Old Bay Line steamers from Baltimore to Norfolk and Weldon, securing an excellent night's rest and good fare thereby. We are told that the time is the same by either route.

On the Wilmington and Weldon road, between Weldon and Wilmington, are as dependent police sleeping cars as can be found on any road in the United States. The connections with the Wilmington and Manchester road for Charlotte, Kingsville, Columbia, and all points South are certain. It is confidently expected that by the first of April the whole route to all Southern cities will be unbroken, and through ticket and baggage arrangements be effected.

The bridge over Alligator Creek having been completed, the train on the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad came through to the depot on Saturday afternoon.—The road is now complete to Kingsville, and the delays heretofore experienced will be avoided. We learn that an extra freight train will be put on the road during the coming week, rendered necessary by the increased business of the road, thereby extending additional freighting facilities to the public.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

DEAD.—Captain John C. Ward, of the late Confederate army, died at his home, 14, Bay Street, Va., on the 6th inst. He commanded the Lynchburg Rifles from the Spring of 1862 till the close of the war.

Joseph Mayo, Esq., for many years Mayor of Richmond, until the last, when the Federals wouldn't allow him to be a candidate, has announced that he will accept the suffrages of the people this year.

NASHVILLE, March 16.—General Cheatham was married at the First United Presbyterian Church to-day. A large number of guests were present, including Generals Hood, Buckner, Manly and Anderson.

Gen. Evans, who was on the Confederate side at Manassas and Ball's Bluff or Leesburg, is in Texas, looking for a place for South Carolinians to settle.

The wife and children of ex-Governor Isham G. Harris have arrived for permanent residence in the United States authorities to join the Governor in Mexico.

Mr. Montgomery, a former Confederate soldier, living near Sweet Water, Tennessee, was murdered by Union desperadoes a few days ago.

Rev. J. L. M. Curry, formerly of the Confederate Congress, is preaching in Montgomery, Alabama.

E. H. Sears has been confirmed by the United States Senate as direct tax Commissioner for North Carolina.

Strong efforts are being made to get ex-Senator Gwin, now a prisoner at Fort Jackson, released.

It is stated that Gen. Frank P. Blair has been appointed Collector for the port of St. Louis.

THE CHOLERA.—It looked, a few weeks ago, that the cholera would approach this country, if it came at all, by way of the Southern coast. After its ravages in the French West India Islands had been somewhat allayed, it would seem that it leaped at one bound from Guadaloupe to Dominica; and it had not much further than the distance between those two islands to travel, to reach our Southern seaboard. Some, at least, of our Southern cities are paying close attention to quarantine, and it is advisable that they should all do so.

THE WAY TO SELECT FLOUR.—First, look to the color. If it is white, with a yellowish or straw-colored tint, buy it. If it is white, with a bluish cast, or with white specks in it, refuse it. Second, examine its adhesiveness; wet and knead a little of it between your fingers; if it works soft and sticky it is poor. Third, throw a little lump of flour against a smooth surface; if it falls like powder it is bad. Fourth, squeeze some of the flour in your hand; if it retains the shape given by the pressure, that, too, is a good sign. Flour that we stand at, is safe to buy.

NEWS SUMMARY.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.—There is considerable talk in Washington about a difficulty between two prominent politicians, caused by the one kissing the other's wife. Whether it will come to "coffee and pistols" for one or not, remains for future developments to determine.

It is said that Secretary McCulloch takes the recent letter of Controller Clarke very quietly, and will pursue the course he has marked out without any reference to the letter in question. He does not consider that the letter calls for any reply from him.

Republican Senators on the Reconstruction Committee will endeavor to agree on a constitutional amendment that will be satisfactory to the party. So says a Republican dispatch from Washington.

The President has approved of the act concerning the withdrawal of goods from bonded warehouses.

President Johnson has determined to have forty thousand negro troops, now stationed at the South mustered out within the coming month.

THE RICHMOND GOLD.—The latest in regard to the gold of the Richmond banks is the following: The specie claimed by the Richmond banks remains in the vaults of the treasury department, and will not be surrendered until further proof is forthcoming. Important testimony has been elicited which will doubtless interfere with the claims set forth by the banks, which are now making extraordinary exertions to secure what they deem their property.

REDEMPTION OF MUTILATED NOTES.—An office has been established in Washington which will result in great benefit to national banks, in the prompt exchange of new for mutilated notes, and indirectly benefit the public, in keeping in circulation perfect notes, thus lessening the danger of the counterfeit being able to deceive, as it is well known that their main hope to circulate bogus notes depends very much upon the genuine circulating medium being partially worn out.

NATIONAL EXPRESS AND TRANSPORTATION COMPANY.—It is currently reported, that the headquarters of this company are being removed to Baltimore; the reason assigned therefor being the facilities from that point for transportation of freight North and West. General Johnston and Mr. Ficklin are said to be in Baltimore now. General P. T. Moore has, it is said, resigned the Secretaryship of the Company.

MAYOR OF NEW ORLEANS.—A dispatch from Washington states that the President has authorized a telegram to be sent to Gov. Wells, of Louisiana, requesting the latter to withhold the credentials of election from John T. Monroe, Mayor elect of New Orleans, and thus prevent his assumption of the office, on account of his alleged disloyalty.

John Bell, of Tennessee, has declared in favor of negro suffrage, with a property qualification of \$250; and also for the admission of negro testimony in civil courts. He expresses the belief, however, that the African race, in a state of freedom, will, in time, become extinct.

President Johnson was informed on Monday, by a friend who returned from Europe, that his policy had the approval of intelligent American sympathizers in Europe. The President expressed pleasure at the information, and complained of the do-nothing policy of Congress.

The Provost Marshal of the Norfolk district announces that certain articles of silver ware which came into the possession of the military authorities of that department during the war, will be returned on application to Colonel W. L. James, Chief Quartermaster and Financial Agent, Richmond.

COTTON GROWING LAST YEAR WAS UNUSUALLY LUCRATIVE in Southern Illinois. Jefferson County produced one-half million pounds, which at Western prices (forty-five cents per pound) is worth \$225,000, while some of the counties below raised four times that amount.

THE RECIPROcity TREATY.—In accordance with the official notification given by our government a year ago, the treaty regulating trade between this country and Canada, known as the Canadian reciprocity treaty, after an existence of ten years, has expired.

LECTURE ON GLEN STONEWALL JACKSON.—Gen. H. C. Johnston is announced to deliver a lecture in Baltimore on Thursday evening the 22d inst., entitled "Personal Recollections of Stonewall Jackson and a Critical Discussion of his Military Character."

THE LIFE ENDOWMENT FUND.—A considerable amount of money has recently been raised in New York by Rev. S. D. Stewart, to enable the Trustees of Washington College to endow another Professorship and otherwise enlarge the usefulness of that institution.

ABOVE HIS BUSINESS.—Freeman Clarke, Comptroller of the Currency, has written a very important letter to the Secretary of the Treasury. He attempts to make it appear that Mr. McCulloch is not fit for the high office he fills.

NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTIONS.—It seems from a published letter of Hon. Wm. Dennison, Postmaster General, that the Republicans had the assistance of the official influence of that cabinet officer, in the recent elections.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN NEW YORK WAS CELEBRATED in a most extensive and magnificent style. It is estimated that the parade was composed of fifty thousand of the daughters and sons of the Emerald Isle.

CAPT. MATTHEWS, sub-commissioner of Freedmen at Magnolia, Mississippi, having made unfounded statements concerning the treatment of negroes by white persons, has been published as a libeller by the citizens.

DISMISSAL.—An agent of the Freedmen's Bureau, in Loudon county, Virginia, has been dismissed by General Howard for charging a fee for the restoration of certain property to its rightful owner.

General Burnside will probably receive the Republican nomination for Governor of Rhode Island.

On Thursday the steamship Etna arrived at New York, from Liverpool, with seven hundred emigrants.

The India cotton crop is 40,000 bales short.

The Whipping on Saturday.

BUREAU R. P. AND A. L. (To the Editor of the Wilmington Herald.) I desire to correct, through your columns, what may be erroneous impressions arising from the interference by the freedmen's bureau with the execution of the sentence of public whipping upon some freedmen on Saturday last.

The following is briefly the account of the matter as I understand it: On the 27th ult. I received a communication from a committee appointed by the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, requesting further information upon the question of jurisdiction in cases of breach of criminal law by freedmen.—Some time thereafter, I addressed a reply to the communication of the committee, enclosing a copy of circular No. 1, from the assistant commissioner for the State, of Feb. 16, 1866.

This circular states that in such cases "no objection will be made to trial by civil courts, the testimony of colored witnesses being by law admitted, provided that punishments for crime are necessarily the same for whites and blacks." Upon this information the court, at its session last week, proceeded to try the cases, convicted several colored prisoners and ordered punishment by public whipping.

Before this punishment was inflicted, on Saturday, W. A. Wright, Esq., presiding member of the court, called upon me and asked if I had any means to take these punishments into my own hands, and thereby, avoid the necessity of the necessity of whipping. I replied frankly that I had no available means of punishment, as the force at my command was not sufficient to afford guards.

It was also mentioned that Circular No. 1 gave the court authority, and I knew no order preventing it, and other conversations upon the same general effect. I was very busy, and gave the matter not so much thought as it probably demanded. As I was returning from dinner and passing the court house, I saw an excited crowd of colored persons, and was called by Major Wickersham, who informed me he was about to stop the whipping (then going on). I meanwhile sent two clerks (armed with pistols) to direct the sheriff to delay the whipping until the matter could be investigated, and I went into the major's office. The orders returned for written orders, and the major wrote out hastily a paper which I understood to be the same as the verbal orders—The clerk was informed of the proceedings, and being whipped who were not allowed colored evidence. This complaint was made to the major, and received his attention, just as all complaints do. He did not order the arrest of the sheriff, but directed the whipping to be suspended until he could investigate the case.

Major Wickersham knew nothing, or very little, of my communication to the Court, and nothing of the conversation with Judge Wright. The correspondence was during his absence. Dec. 26, 1865, Major Wickersham addressed a communication to Col. Whittlesey, Asst. Commissioner at Raleigh, upon this subject, and had received in reply this endorsement: "I have no objection to your suspending the whipping until you can investigate the case."

By command of Col. Whittlesey, Asst. Comr. (Signed) FRED. H. BECHLER, Major, U. S. Army. The Major was, at that time, Superintendent, and this order was unknown to me until shown to Mr. Wright and myself Saturday, P. M. This endorsement, and the complaint before stated, governed the Major, and he decreed it, as I should have done in his place, his duty to inquire into the matter.

It was unfortunate that the order had to pass into or through the Court room, but this was not contemplated, and was not intended to interfere with the operations of the Court. I immediately addressed a respectful communication to the honor of the Court, through Mr. Wright, its presiding officer, enclosing a copy of the foregoing endorsement, and requested a suspension of such punishment until I could receive dispatches from Raleigh. For those I wrote immediately, and now await them. I regard the whole matter as unfortunate, but unavoidable, and defensible under the circumstances, and have cheerfully to say, as I did to them, that my action is not taken as questioning the pure motives which, I am sure, govern the honorable Court.

WM. H. H. BEADLE, Brevet Lt. Col. and Superintendent.

A New Military Order.—An order, issued by Colonel O. Brown, on the 12th inst., and approved by Major General A. H. Terry, commanding the Department of Virginia, gives effect to the laws passed by the General Assembly of Virginia, at its late session, in relation to criminal cases against colored persons, and in equity, in which colored persons are parties. The order forbids, "until further orders," the trial of criminal cases "by any officer or agent of the Bureau in this State," except such as may have been commenced before the date of the order.—It makes it the duty of the "Assistant Superintendents" to attend such preliminary hearings within their jurisdiction, in which colored person may be a party, or in which such person shall be a witness. The Assistant Superintendents will not, however, interfere with the action of the Court, act as attorneys, or offer arguments. They are to "confine themselves to such friendly suggestions to colored persons concerned, or their counsel, as may be necessary." It is made their duty to make "immediate report of any instance of oppression or injustice against a colored party, whether prosecutor or defendant, and in cases of the improper rejection of colored witnesses, &c., &c. It would be premature to offer any suggestions as to the probable operation of this new order. We can, however, distinctly where-in it may be abused.—(Richmond Enquirer.)

MR. N. P. BANKS (late Major General), whose distinguished and brilliant campaigns in the Valley of Virginia, and subsequent achievements near Shreveport, in Louisiana, are well remembered by our readers, (and for whose forthrightness as a collector of commissary stores the late Stonewall Jackson always expressed the warmest admiration,) is now a member of Congress from Massachusetts. In this last capacity he delivered a few days ago, advocating an appropriation to defray the expenses of the American exhibitors at the great Paris Industrial Exhibition of 1867.

In the course of his remarks he insisted that the civilized world was profoundly interested in the large and miscellaneous assortment of old shoes, boots, haversacks and other trappings which the war has scattered in such profusion throughout the land. Among other things, he said: "A pair of worn out shoes and the dress of an American soldier, the shelter tent under which he slept, his bayonet, his knapsack, his cap—whatever he has used, will attract more attention, draw a greater crowd of people, and hold them longer and faster in study and observation than the crown jewels of England and France and all the European States combined."

The idea of such an assortment of rubbish as the above attracting more attention than the crown jewels of all the European States combined is very funny. If Congress shall decide to devote a portion of the space which has been allotted to the United States in the "great exhibition" to old clothes, we trust that Banks shall be put in charge of them. Banks must have worn out a great many "boots and shoes" in his famous Valley campaign as well as during his excursion into the interior of Louisiana.

SIBBEY OF FORT SUMNER.—The Daily South Carolinian entreats those Confederate officers who were, at any period, in command of the defenses of Fort Sumner