

Governor Vance's Rhetoric.

We have no doubt that Governor Vance has rightly understood the dishonesty of the rebel leaders in their pretended doctrine of the "right of secession." From the bitterness of his late speech at Wilkesboro, we should think he had been drinking recently at the fountains of gall and vindictiveness at Richmond. And he no doubt "speaks by the book" when he declares that in case North Carolina attempts as a sovereign State, to avail herself of the right which the so-called Constitution of the rebel government ensures to her, and votes herself out of the Confederacy, Jeff Davis and his despotic crew will declare war against her as a foreign state.

The pretended right of secession is all a sham, and as soon as North Carolina attempts to exercise it in a way to interfere with the ambitious purposes of the men who invented it, it will be set aside by a piece of political trickery worthy of its source. Says Governor Vance, North Carolina will be allowed under the Constitution to secede from the Confederacy, but the Confederacy will immediately declare war against her as a foreign state, for doing what she had a perfect right to do.—There is an old proverb about "whipping the d—l around a stump," but we never saw a more infamous illustration of it than the one which Governor Vance exposes.

Yet we believe he knows whereof he affirms. He boldly declares it, and argues from it, against the policy of a separation from the Confederacy. The gist of his argument is summed up by Shakespeare in a line—
"Better bear the ills we have
Than fly to others that we know not of,"
or as the Governor more elegantly phrases it, "Don't jump from the frying pan into the fire."

And then, carrying out his beautiful figure, he tries to lift his hearers like a host of Lilliputians up to the edge of the huge frying pan, and let them look over into the Pandemonium beneath, and with all the burning breath he can muster, he blows the fires into a terrible wrath and dresses out President Lincoln with horns and cloven hoof and sets him with malignant leer, rake in hand, ready to drag them upon the coals, if they attempt to escape.

This is effective rhetoric with an unintelligent audience, and we have no doubt a portion of Governor Vance's hearers, went home thinking it were better to stand it until they shall be roasted by slow degrees in the pan, than to leap into the fire.

We have not time in the present article to answer the inferences of this rebel orator. We have only one counter assertion to make. If North Carolina secedes from the Southern Confederacy, simply and solely to escape the miseries which rebellion is now suffering, and expects to stand in her isolated position, it is as clear as the light that she will find herself both "in the pan" and "in the fire." But if she does this as a first step with an honest intention to return to her old loyalty—and follows it like the Prodigal, by an unreserved repentance and submission, we promise her a warm greeting and a rejoicing welcome, and we do not hesitate to pledge that she will find Abraham Lincoln, not the terrible ogre which Governor Vance has pictured him—but the merciful Magistrate, ready to defend with all the resources at his command, the repentant State against all the bitterness and violence of her late allies in rebellion and wickedness.

AGREED AT LAST.—We never expected to live long enough to witness a cordial union upon any one of those great New York Editorial opponents, Greeley and Bennett. But at last on one point they agree—we are yet to see if either of them will practice upon their own recommendation. The *Herald* and *Tribune* mutually advise that all good citizens—politicians, President-makers, Abolitionists and Copperheads, make an end of politics and political wire-workings until the great battles of the ensuing campaign are over. They advise all loyal citizens to unite in sustaining the Government by filling up the army. That is good advice—let us prove that we can sustain a Government, and afterwards elect a President. We shall take pleasure in reading the *Tribune* and *Herald* hereafter, which we must confess will be a new-found pleasure.

The General Assembly of the rebel Presbyterian church meets at Charlotte, N. C. Rev. Jas. A. Lyon, Moderator of the Convention of all the rebel churches, has been called to devise some plan to check the increase of vice.

THE SHOE BUSINESS OF LYNN.—The Bay State says that great activity has existed in the shoe business of Lynn since the new year commenced, and labor in that line is plentiful and remunerative. The total amount of revenue collected on shoes alone for the month of January is \$23,789.52. At three per cent, this gives the amount of sales \$792,964, or nearly \$800,000.

A new "winkle" in the gas business is an attachment of a small machine clock to street lamps, whereby the gas is turned off at precisely the moment desired. A few months ago a "self-lighting" arrangement was around for the inspiration of the gas burning public. All it wants now is for some ingenious mechanic to invent some cheap contrivance that will liquidate "quarterly gas bills."—*New Haven Courier*.

We see an advertisement in the Raleigh *Progress* of "Walnuts for sale at \$1 per dozen."

A general congress of Freemasons of all countries is to shortly assemble at Leipzig.

MISCEGENATION.—Somebody at the North has coined this new word—a word of horrible meaning not found in the dictionaries, but which is applied in lieu of amalgamation. Upon this word the agitators are having a delightful discussion, conducted with great earnestness by a portion of the New York Editorial fraternity, which proves our brethren are very short of argumentative stock and possessed with a very low sort of taste. We suppose the object of those who so fluently discuss the question of "Miscegenation" is to keep alive the prejudice, somewhat at its ebb-tide, against the colored people. It would be superfluous for us to say here, that we are decidedly opposed to "Miscegenation." It is a twin brother of slavery, and has always gone hand in hand with the peculiar and inhuman institution of the Southern States. Slaveholders and their sons, and some who are neither the one or the other, have practiced "Miscegenation" to their heart's content. We have evidence of it before our eyes every day—we find evidence of it on every street and in nearly every house in New Berne—"Miscegenation" is emphatically a Southern institution, and white women, ladies of the South, wives of slaveholders and sisters of their sons, know to their sorrow of the fact whereof we affirm. But the evidence of "Miscegenation" at the South—in these towns and villages and upon these plantations, sustained as a direct result of slavery, should reflect no discredit and be allowed to increase no unjust prejudice against the colored people, the victims of this practice. The poor degraded slave woman—she belonged to another, was another's chattel—slave, compelled to obey, and educated in the low school of morals taught by these *chivalric* Miscegenators. Is it not a fact that a large portion of the colored people of the South have more or less white blood in their veins? Is it not a fact known and understood by all, that here in New Berne were slaves as white as any white men at the North? Is it not a fact that a thousand colored citizens of Louisiana, sons of "Miscegenating" slaveholding sires who pay taxes on fifteen millions of property are petitioning Congress that their rights may be recognized and they be allowed a voice in the government they support?

As slavery totters and falls before the onward march of public opinion and Federal armies, so will "Miscegenation" die out of itself and be looked upon hereafter as one the horrible adjuncts of slavery. There is no need of discussion on this subject—no need of argument, for "Miscegenation" will be regulated by the natural course of events and be sustained or fall just as slavery is sustained or annihilated. So too will the negro rise or fall exactly in proportion as he demonstrates his manhood. If he proves himself worthy of public confidence, he will rescue it, and the fact that he is or is not a living example of "Miscegenation" as practised by the "chivalry" of these Southern States, will have no sort of weight in forming an estimate of his character.

Notes from Washington, N. C.
WASHINGTON, N. C., Mar. 29th, 1864.
Friend Joy:—I have to record another brilliant affair made by the irrepressible Graham and his gallant band of Buffs. On the 26th inst., Capt. G. at the head of a squad of his men made a reconnaissance towards Greenville, with the intention of learning the whereabouts of our almost ubiquitous (mayhap *iniquitous*) enemies, and the laudable object of picking up a few of their unsuspecting videttes, if he happened to meet with any. About noon having espied three rebel videttes, Capt. G. took ten men and made a fearful charge upon them. The videttes had just time enough to show a three clean pair of heels, when Graham came up with them. This happened about one mile from Black Jack Church. The rebels led our fellows a pretty close race until they brought the Buffs "smack" into the rebel reserve, consisting of some twenty cavalry under charge of Lieut. McKinney. Nothing daunted, however, Graham continued his charge and made a gallant fight lasting about five minutes. He succeeded in killing eight of the enemy among whom was Lieut. McKinney, and wounding seven. About a half mile farther on, down a very straight road, Capt. G. saw the enemy drawn up in line of battle with vastly superior numbers, and deeming it nothing short of madness to continue the fight, after releasing the wounded prisoners, and giving three cheers for the Sub-district of the Pamlico, and three for the old flag, he returned to Washington, bringing with him five horses and two prisoners. He also destroyed some twenty stand of arms. Lieut. Fogarty who commanded the reserve upon hearing the firing went to Graham's assistance, but the fight was so "sharp, short and decisive," he was a little too late. Lt. Fogarty is a brave and promising young officer.

The road between Black Jack and Greenville is very strongly picketed by four companies of Col. Kennedy's battalion of rebel cavalry—with the object, it is said, of protecting their weak spots about Kinston. Col. McChesney arrived this morning, and has assumed command of his regiment. The boys are much rejoiced thereat.

An *avoir*.—"Yankee Joy."
Your's muchly,
IDLEWILD.

DIED GAME.—Lieut. Kinzey of the rebel cavalry, died manfully though in a bad cause, in the late raid of Graham's. He refused to surrender, after receiving a sabre stroke which opened his chest, and still continued to use his weapons refusing all offers for quarter, when he was shot. We are truly sorry that a man of such nerve, and mistaken principle, should pervert his talent to uphold such a cause as this, and to die, needlessly, refusing quarter, in upholding the tottering dynasty of Jefferson Davis.

BURGLARY.—The store of G. P. Simonton & Co., on Middle street near the wharf, on Monday night last was broken into, and a quantity of goods were taken. Officer Tallman arrested an enlisted man by the name of Smith, belonging to one of the N. Carolina regiments, the next morning, and found the missing goods in his possession. The soldier was committed to jail to await his trial.

FISHING.—Herring are very abundant in our waters this spring, as well as the "delicious fresh white shad." The fishermen have generally been doing well, although of late the high water, has somewhat retarded them, and the steamers have thoughtlessly done some damage to the nets. But fishermen's luck runs in a devious channel.

FLOWERS.—The flowering almonds which are so handsome, and which please the lover of the beautiful, are now blooming finely in the various gardens, in and about our city. Trees are putting forth their buds, and preparing to LEAVE, and nature generally seems to be on the *qui vive*, for a spring entertainment.

The Musical Association formed on Wednesday evening at the New Street Chapel. Lt. Knox president and W. L. Poisk as Secretary. Twenty-five persons became members of the Society. After some choice music by a portion of the Band of the 2d Massachusetts Artillery, Lieut. Knox of the Signal Corps, explained the object of the meeting. All the ladies and most of the gentlemen present, expressed themselves willing to form an association, and on motion, a committee was appointed to draft an organization and by-laws for the Government of same to report at a meeting to be held next Wednesday evening at the same place, at 8 o'clock.—We hope the ladies of New Berne will lend their assistance to this movement, which will prove not only a source of improvement, but of rational enjoyment to all.

CONTUMPTIBLE.—On Sunday afternoon last, six four young men were sailing about the beautiful bay formed by the junction of the Trent and Neuse, their boat was upset and they were precipitated into the water, a little below Spinoia, and near the opposite side of the Neuse. They remained on the bottom of the boat about thirty minutes, when the skipper of a coal schooner, which lay near them, came in a boat with two men, hailed, and asked them if they wanted his assistance. On being answered in the affirmative, he leisurely proceeded to haul them ashore, and on being asked what price he set on his efforts, replied "twelve dollars." The party succeeded in raising ten dollars, which the greedy man accepted, and went his way, thinking no doubt, that he done a big thing, and so he had in the scale of contemptibility. We would like to obtain his name.

Retail dealers who sell the *Times* are notified that prompt payment of their bills are expected. All bills for papers are payable every week. We open no long accounts with any person.

FREE SCHOOLS FOR WHITES.—We rejoice to learn that these schools are becoming a success. Over 167 children of New Berne, have availed themselves of its privileges. We learn that it is the intention of the Chief Provost Marshal to have every child attend. These poor to purchase books, will be supplied gratuitously. In consequence of the crowded rooms at the chapel on New Street, the school has been removed to the Methodist Episcopal Church on New St. The school is now under charge of Miss DOHERTY, assisted by her sister, strict orders have been issued, and great pains have been taken to prevent children from running into the church or pulpit, and standing on the seats. In fact, every care has been taken to preserve the church in good order.

SUSPICIOUS.—VERY.—To see a wagon with a huge *demi-john*, stop before the door of a philanthropic institution in our immediate vicinity.

MAJOR BENJ. B. FOSTER, the gentlemanly and urbane Assistant Adjutant General, for a long period on Gen. Peck's staff, has been relieved from further duty at these headquarters. In taking his leave of Major FOSTER, Gen. PECK says: "The Commanding-General takes this occasion to thank Major FOSTER for the efficient manner in which he has discharged the manifold duties incident to his office."

May the Major's future career be as bright and prosperous, as his past has been honorable and successful.

CIGARS.—Kahn & Maag of Pollock street, have a beautiful supply of excellent cigars for sale, as well as medicines enough to make half the city sick.

OUR MANSIONS.—It does one good to promenade through the streets of our beautiful city. Summer will soon be with us and our great thoroughfares will then be canopied by the kindly shade and pleasing verdure of our umbrageous elms. New Berne is the New Haven of North Carolina, and before many months have elapsed under the benign influence of the Yankees, it will begin to exhibit that improvement in public education which has so long characterized the "capital" of the good old land of steady habits.

McRae of the *Raleigh Confederate* avows that the homes of the refugees from the city who fled when the town was occupied by our forces, and who were banished by reason of their undignified treason to the flag of their fathers, have been polluted and contaminated by vandal Yankees. McRae labors under a hallucination; some of the finest residences here are blessed with the presence of many of our most lovely Northern ladies who are ornaments to their sex, and who adorn the circles in which they move. They have converted these mansions into earthly paradises, and bestowed upon them attention, neatness and purity, to which they were aliens before. Contamination and pollution vanished from the residences of New Berne when secession and secessionists departed from hence with their kindred spirits, to find a more congenial home in Dixie.

REMOVAL.—PHAIR & FARR have removed their stock of Ladies' Goods from Hancock street to Middle street, near Broad.

MAILS.—The mails have been pouring in upon us at a fearful rate of late. May it continue.

Gov. Vance says that the bones of the Yankees that bleach on the plains of Northern Virginia, if piled in a row, would make a macadamized road from Richmond to Washington, over which the artillery of the Southern Confederacy could roll between the two cities.

AN ORIGINAL EXCUSE FOR MURDER.—Some prisoners in the building opposite Castle Thunder, Richmond, according to the rebel papers, amused themselves recently by throwing bits of plaster on the sentry on guard under the windows of the building. Not stopping this on request, the sentry fired up at the window. A detective by the name of Wooters, and several other officials about the Castle, then went up into the building to see if any one had been hurt. On getting up to the room into which the shot had been fired, Wooters approached the window and looked out, and the sentinel fired at him, the musket ball entering the left eye. Wooters fell at the crack of the gun and afterwards died. The sentinel said he fired at Wooters because he thought he was a Yankee.

Postmaster Wakeman of New York offers employment for six boys, whose fathers have lost their lives in battle during the present war. Here is a fine example.

An English newspaper says that only one person ever got to the bottom of the Schleswig Holstein question, and he was a German Professor who immoderately went mad.

Fernando Wood, who has been "lying very low" at Bloomingdale, N. Y., is better and will soon be able to lie as usual.

Among the inscriptions on the tombstones in the rebel graveyard at Bealton station, Va., is the following:—"A coward, Ninth regiment Louisiana Volunteers, died Dec. 4, 1861."

We are not informed that Daniel Pratt, the Great American Traveller, and formerly the publisher of "The Gridiron," has joined the editorial corps of the New York *Herald*, but we judge that such is the fact from the style of its leaders.

The Oskaloosa (Iowa) *Herald* tells of a fat hog which was buried forty-three days under the snow in that country, which still lives, though reduced from its obese condition to almost a shadow.

The rebel War Department advertises for four hundred slaves or free negroes to work for the nitre and mining bureau, and reminds interested parties that it has power to impress such laborers if not otherwise forthcoming.

A Louisville editor says he has just seen a gentleman who, after having travelled three thousand miles in the South in search of his rights without finding them, concluded to give up the hunt and come home.

The Paris *Charivari* has a caricature of John Bull in convulsions of grief by the side of the British lion, crouching like a cur with a tin kettle, labelled "Schleswig Holstein," fastened to his tail. Mr. Bull is explaining that the lion is "bien malade." The chiefs of the Six Nations representing the Oneidas, Cayugas, Senecas, Onondagas, Tuscaroras and St. Regis (Mohawks), who are on their way to Washington, were to be received on Monday evening at the meeting of the New York Historical Society. They have with them the famous wampum presented to them by Washington in 1790.

The Captain E. S. Parker, on the staff of Lieutenant General Grant, is Ely Parker, of New York, the Head Chief of the Six Nations, and long and favorably known as an engineer. He has spent several years in Galena the residence of General Grant, where he had charge of buildings in process of erection by the Federal Government.

Will the *Richmond Examiner* read this:—The Newburyport *Herald* says that the Globe Mill is rapidly starting up its works. About a dozen looms are now running, and the number will be increased as fast as possible. Now about 120 hands are employed; its full force is 350, and they will all be on in April.

THE S. R. SPAULDING.—The steamer S. R. Spaulding, during the thirty months that she has been in the United States transport service, has entered ports and places between Boston and New Orleans 202 times, has passed Cape Hatteras 107 times, has run 55,011 miles, and made 4,565,881 revolutions of the engine and burned 6,113 tons of coal.

The following conundrum from a correspondent is respectfully declined: "Why does the patriotism of Rhode Island appear to be an original article? because there are no quota-shun marks about it."

The camels imported for the government six years ago, and since kept near the Tejon reservation on the plains, have increased from fifteen to forty seven. They are now removed to Benicia, California. They can easily travel fifty miles a day, but they are not allowed to do more than thirty. One of them has carried four bales of wool or cotton.

The French Emperor is carrying on great excavations at Compeign. The laborers lately found and sent to Paris a curious brass bottle, containing 1,004 Roman silver coins.

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania is doing a good thing by setting itself to work to collect photographs of the battle fields in this war. A hospitable gentleman one day informed his butler that six clergymen were going to dine with him, and desired him to make due preparation. "May I ask, sir," deferentially replied the butler, "whether they are 'igh or low church?" "What on earth makes you ask such a question?" "Because, sir, you see, if they're 'igh, they drink; if they're low, they eat." The *London Saturday Review* says that.

A band of English operatives from Lancashire—about forty adults, male and female, with a fair proportion of little folks—arrived at Waterville, Me., the other day, en route for the mills at North Vassalboro'. They are shorter by a head than the Maine Yankees, but hardy, intelligent looking people, says the *Waterville Mail*. Snow was a novelty to them, and as they moved on from the depot on their first sleigh ride, they vented their feelings in loud exclamations of delight.

The family of Colonel James Webb, of North Bridgeton, Connecticut, has sent five sons to the war, and two others now at home have been presented to the examining board, but on account of physical disability were not received.

NO TIME WASTED.—The *Berkshire Courier* says that Adonijah Ferry buried his loving spouse on the fifth of February, and married the widow of his brother, Mrs. Joanna Ferry, twenty-three days later. The *Courier* thinks there could have been no time lost in that courtship.

A Paris paper gravely declares that Lord Brougham is a naturalized Frenchman.

The rebels are removing all the rails from the railroads in Florida to patch up the roads in other sections of the Confederacy.

The "Fremont Movement" in New York took form and substance Friday evening, in a nomination of John C. to the Presidency, by a gathering of his friends at the Cooper Institute. Horace Greeley made a speech on the occasion, which was not perhaps as decided as had been expected of him.

BRAGO.—The rebels evidently believe the old saying that "Brag (g) is a good dog," for they have made Bragg the watch-dog of Richmond.

The British Thunder don't like Mr. Chase's financial policy, and why? Because it is likely to raise the tariff on foreign goods. The *Times* hints plainly that it prefers we should adopt free trade and direct taxation, and it would fain convince us that that is our best policy. The *Times* had better tell that to "the marines"—our Committee of Ways and Means won't believe it.

Gen. Peck's final Reply to the Rebel Pickett, on the late Execution of Federal Soldiers at Kinston.

The rebel papers for some time past, have been publishing the coarse and inhuman letters of the rebel Pickett, and calling them exceedingly smart and witty, but have carefully suppressed the following letter from GEN. PECK, a copy of which has been kindly placed at our disposal. GEN. PECK having done all that laid in his power to do, thus takes leave of the dastardly scoundrel, who has so ruthlessly and inhumanly butchered federal soldiers, for no other crime, than that of loving their country.

HEAD QRS. ARMY & DIST. OF NORTH CAROLINA, NEWBERN, N. C., Feb. 27th, 1864.

MAJ. GEN. GEO. E. PICKETT, Dept. of North Carolina, Confederate Army.

GENERAL.—February 13th I had the honor to address you in respect to fifty-three North Carolinians who had fallen into your hands in your late operations about Newbern. As you were truly gentlemen who had daily enlisted in the United States Army, I requested the same treatment of them as should be meted out to other prisoners of war. No allusion was made to the question of your right to place these men upon any other footing, or to the matter of retaliation.

In your reply of the 17th, you enclosed a list of twenty-two who have been executed at Kinston, and express the determination to punish the balance if proof is found of their desertion from your service.

These men in common with more than half of the population of the State were ever loyal to the United States, and opposed secession until put down by arbitrary power. A mercenary conscription drove them into the service and for a time compelled the suspension of their real sentiments but was powerless to destroy their love for the Federal Union. With tens of thousands they seized the first opportunity to rush within my lines, and resume their former allegiance. Had these men been traitors to the United States at the outbreak of the rebellion, their claims upon it for protection and sympathy under the circumstances would have been strong, but in view of their unwavering and unflinching loyalty, I cannot doubt that the Government will take immediate steps to redress these outrages upon humanity, and to correct such gross violations of the usages of the warfare, as a general avowal of my duty has been performed, and the blood of these unfortunate will rest upon you and your associates.

In your communication of the 16th you threaten to execute ten of the officers and soldiers of the United States Army for every one of your men prisoners in my hands which I shall execute under orders of the President of the United States, which I enclosed for your information. This announcement taken in connection with the execution of the North Carolinians and similar proceedings elsewhere evinces a most extraordinary thirst for life and blood on the part of the Confederate authorities. Such violence and revengeful acts resorted to to show the States of civilized warfare, of the weak and crumbling condition of the Confederacy. This wicked rebellion has now attained that desperate state, which history shows is always the shortest of revolutionary stages. The friends of the Union every where truly interpret these signs of madness and recklessness and are now making one grand rally for the utter overthrow and final extinction of all treason.

Very respectfully, your ob'dt Servt.
JOHN J. PECK, Major-General.

CONNECTING AMERICA BY TELEGRAPH WITH ASIA AND EUROPE.—The Board of Directors of the Western Union Line met at their rooms in Philadelphia lately, to confer with F. McDowell Collins, Esq., on the subject of perfecting a European connection of the line through the British and Russian possessions in North America, Asia and Europe. This gentleman has just returned from Europe, after having obtained from these governments exclusive rights for the erection and operation of telegraph lines through the countries in their possession for thirty years. Mr. Collins has been in town for a day or two, and was present at the meeting of telegraph directors. He submitted a proposition to the board turning over to them the valuable grants in his possession, which, after a brief consideration, was accepted by them with unanimity, thus substituting the company in his stead in his contract with the foreign governments named.

The Western Union are already in connection with California and Oregon. The distance between the mouth of the Columbia river and St. Petersburg, in Russia, is not far from 100 degrees, or about 7000 English miles, as measured on a globe, and following the variations which the route must necessarily make from a right line, the length between Dregon and the Russian capital cannot fall short of 8000 miles. Twelve hundred miles of the distance will be through British America, nine hundred through the American territory to Bhering's Straits, and six thousand miles thence to London, thus spanning over one-third of the earth's circumference.

The American line will connect with the Russian line on the Amoor river, which forms the boundary between the Chinese Empire and Siberia, and empties into the sea of Okhotsk, to the eastward.

Large portions of the line have already been surveyed, and its practicability determined, and the enterprise will be pushed forward with all the vigor and dispatch which have characterized the operations of the Western Telegraph Union. Mr. Collins will give the company the benefit of his valuable services in the enterprise.

PLOT OF THE REBEL PRISONERS AT FORT WARREN TO ESCAPE.—We learn that a conspiracy among the rebel prisoners confined at Fort Warren to escape was nipped in the bud yesterday, by the revocation of one of the prisoners who took the oath of allegiance. According to his statements plans were matured to overpower the small guard left in charge while the greater portion were at their meals in the cook room. After obtaining possession of the muskets stacked outside, it was intended to seize the transport steamer at the wharf, and thus escape. Arrangements were also made to cut the telegraph wire leading to the city to prevent an alarm being given. Since the discovery of the plot additional precautions have been taken to keep the prisoners more secure.—*Boston Herald*, 23d.

A Charleston paper proposes offering full amnesty to all negroes in the United States army, provided they return at once to slavery.