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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY:

Two Dollars per month, or ten dollars for six months.

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TELEGRAPHIC.

NORTHERN NEWS.

RICHMOND, Dec. 12.—New York papers of the 10th received. A Nashville telegram of the 9th reports weather very cold. Heavy snow and hail prevailed all day. The rebel line appears intact. No indications of an attack or of the rebels running away. Gunboats went down the river again on the 9th, and engaged and shelled the rebel batteries, and returned to the city. The rebels are still throwing up earthworks. A rebel brigade has gone in the direction of Marlboro'. Prisoners report that Chamberlain's command are on the right, Lee's in the center, and Stewart's on the left.

Gold closed on the 9th, at 240. The London Times commenting on Mr. Webb's letter says, the English nation is not so easily moved by unseemly language, but allows words however often live, to pass by without regarding it. Says Webb's letter is not of the slightest political importance—only shows temper, in which certain men representing a most powerful section, like America, are accustomed to think and talk of the U. States. Nothing else of interest.

AUGUSTA, Dec. 12.—In the fight at Coosawhatchie on Friday, Brig. Gen. Gartrell was badly wounded in the side by a shell. Notwithstanding his severe wound, he remained on the field until the fight ceased. He was brought to Augusta on Sunday.

RICHMOND, Dec. 13.—The Senate passed a bill to authorize the transmission of newspapers to soldiers free of postage. Also a bill for the employment of all free male negroes and forty thousand slaves to work upon fortifications, and perform other labor connected with the defenses of the country.

Gen. Jos. E. Johnson occupied a privileged seat in the Senate chamber to-day.

In the House, the sequestration and currency bills were further discussed.

RICHMOND, Dec. 13.—The Senate passed concurrent resolutions for recess from the 24th inst. until the 2d January. Mr. Orr from the committee on foreign affairs reported back Mr. Henry's resolutions defining the position of the Confederate States, and declaring the determination of Congress and the people thereof to prosecute the war till their independence is achieved. The resolutions passed, yeas 16, nays none.

The bill to provide for the remission of the penalty for the non-delivery of bacon tithes passed.

In the House, the sequestration and currency bills were discussed.

The bill increasing the pay of members of Congress fifty per cent. passed, yeas 45, nays 41. Several bills reported, were ordered to be printed.

RICHMOND, Dec. 13.—The Washington Chronicle of Sunday received. A Nashville telegram of the 10th says the Federal loss at the battle of Franklin, ascertained by official reports, is one hundred and ten officers, two thousand and fifteen men killed, wounded and missing.

Prisoners report that Hood is about to make a movement of some sort. The rebels can be plainly seen from the front of the fourth corps, standing about their camp fires. Hostilities have ceased on account of the weather.

A furious snow prevailed in the Northern cities on Saturday, extending as far as Halifax. Gold closed in New York Saturday, at 234.

Gen. Dana's expedition from Vicksburg destroyed the Mississippi Central Railroad for thirty miles above Big Lick crossing. Twenty-five hundred bales of Cotton destroyed.

RICHMOND, Dec. 13.—An official dispatch from Gen. Lee to-day, says the expedition to Belfield under Warren returned within the enemy's lines yesterday. The two divisions of the 9th corps, which went to Warren's relief proceeded no farther than Beecher's Mill. On meeting the returning column, it turned back.

On retiring from Belfield the enemy moved easterly to Jerusalem Sussex C. H. roads. Our troops, therefore, only encountered their rear guard, and pursued no farther than Notoway river. They have returned to camp bringing in a few prisoners. Our loss very slight.

The Superintendent of the Railroad reports about six miles of track torn up.

NORTHERN NEWS.

RICHMOND, Dec. 4.—United States papers of the 12th, reports the position of affairs at Nashville unchanged. Rosencrantz has been removed from the command of the Department of Missouri, succeeded by Hodge. Some twenty-five rebels appeared on the river bank opposite Memphis a few days ago, and waved their hats and hurrahed for Jeff Davis.

A force of one hundred and fifty was sent on a steamer about a mile lower down the river and landed. The rebels ran, pursued by negroes till they came to a thick bush, where a large force of rebels were secreted, the negroes fled, the rebels hotly pursuing. One report says several negroes returned, another says none got back, many rushed into the river, and were drowned.

Cincinnati telegrams say that considerable excitement prevailed there on the 9th, in consequence of the rumor.

Forrest is moving against Louisville. A Louisville telegram of the 10th, mid-night, says the Nashville train had not arrived and was six hours behind time. Cause of the detention not known. Gold Monday, 232.

CONGRESSIONAL.

RICHMOND, Dec. 14.—Nothing important or of definite character was done in either House of Congress to-day.

LYNCHBURG, Dec. 14.—Passengers by the Western train to-night report a raid on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad at Bristol, the enemy supposed to be a portion of Burbridge's command from Bean's Station. They advanced rapidly and entered the town at 5 o'clock this morning. Destroyed a considerable quantity of government stores, engines and trains on the East Tennessee and Va. Railroad, and the Eastern down passenger train. Virginia and Tennessee road was captured between Bristol and Abingdon. No positive intelligence of the enemy's numbers, but are supposed to be five or six thousand, a portion of whom are said to occupy the place. A body of the enemy returning towards Bean's Station encountered the forces at Zollicoffer, station on the East Tennessee Road 9 miles west of Bristol, where a fight was said to be progressing at the last accounts.

RICHMOND, Dec. 15.—The Senate passed the House bill with amendment to define and punish conspiracy against the Confederate States. In the House, the Joint resolution for a recess indefinitely postponed. The confiscation and currency bills were further discussed until adjournment.

RICHMOND, Dec. 15.—The evening Whig says official information was received this morning that the enemy stormed and carried Fort McAllister on the Ogeechee yesterday.

RICHMOND, Dec. 15th.—Following received to day:—

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY TENNESSEE, 6 miles from Nashville 8th, via Mobile 9th.

Hon. J. A. Seddon:—About 4 P. M., on the 30th, we attacked the enemy at Franklin, drove them from their entrenchments and temporary works into inner lines, which they evacuated during the fight, leaving their dead and wounded in our possession, and returned to Nashville, closely pursued by our cavalry. We captured several stand of colors and about 1,000 prisoners. The troops fought with great gallantry. We have to lament the loss of many gallant officers and brave men. Major Gen. Cleburne, Brigadier Generals John Williams, Adkins, Gist, Strahl and Granbury, killed. Major General John Brown, Brig. Generals Carter, Manigault, Quarles, Cockrell and Scott, wounded. Brig. General Gordon was captured.

Signed, J. B. HOOD, Gen'l. Subsequent telegram from Hood, says, our loss in officers exceedingly large in proportion to loss of men.

RICHMOND, Dec. 12.—Northern papers to the 13th received. A Nashville telegram of the 12th only gives detail of the fight near Marlboro' between Bate's division and Milroy. A Louisville telegram of the same date says Gen. Lyon crossed the Cumberland river Saturday with twenty-five hundred men moving towards Hopkinsville. A Cairo telegram says Lyon captured a transport twenty miles above Fort Donelson, and used her for crossing the river. The boat was loaded with forage, and was burned after the rebels crossed. This telegram says Lyon's force is estimated at four thousand. Breckinridge is reported at Sparta, Tennessee with ten thousand men. The Steamer Duquesne from Port Royal, on the 7th, arrived at Philadelphia with news of the destruction of Pocotaligo by the Yankee forces.

On the 6th, scouts had communicated with Sherman's forces which were marching on Savannah. Farragut has arrived in New York.

Rosencrantz will command the force designed to operate in the rear of Hood.

In the Senate Davis submitted a lengthy resolution for restoration of peace and Union, which were laid on the table and ordered to be printed. The resolutions propose a convention of all the States, to which shall be referred eleven amendments to the constitution. One forming the New England States into one. Another providing for alternate election of the President from free and slave States.

Gold 232½

RICHMOND, Dec. 16.—In the House Mr. Turner offered a resolution requesting the President with advice and consent of the Senate to appoint 13 commissioners of each State to tender the Government of the United States Conference for negotiating an honorable peace. Failing in this to use all proper efforts to obtain an immediate exchange of prisoners; and if possible to come to such understanding with the enemy, regarding the future conduct of the war as may tend to some degree to mitigate its horrors and atrocities.

Barksdale submitted a substitute preamble, setting forth that the Government of the United States, has repeatedly refused to listen to propositions of honorable peace or mediation and have thus manifested a determination to continue the war.

The first resolution, whilst declaring our readiness to enter upon negotiations for peace, whenever the enemy is so inclined, we will pursue, without failing a cause deliberately chosen for the preservation of our liberties. The Second resolution, prescribed that the Constitution of the Confederate States for making treaties of peace affords ample means to attempt that end whenever the government of the United States avinced a willingness to enter upon negotiations for terminating the war. After the substitute was read, the morning hour expired and the House resolved itself into committee of the whole and resumed the consideration of the currency bill. Perkins offered a substitute, which was under consideration when the House adjourned.

Nothing important done in the Senate in open session.

RICHMOND, Dec. 18.—Northern papers of Thursday received last night. An official dispatch from Hilton Head, of the 12th says Howard commanding the right wing of Sherman's army had communicated with Foster, his chief of scouts having descended the Ogeechee in small boats, and thus made his way to our lines. He left the army on the 7th inst. A dis-

patch from Howard says we have met with perfect success thus far. The troops are in the finest spirits. Nothing of importance had occurred at Nashville, on the 13th. Gen. Lyon was moving on Russellville.

In the Senate on the 14th, Mr. Chancellor offered a resolution denouncing the release of the St. Alban's raiders, and authorizing the organization of a city corps for the protection of the Northern frontier incursions of rebel raiders. Chancellor also introduced a series of resolutions directing the Secretary of State to demand from the British government the surrender of the raiders.

Gen. Dix has issued an order, in consequence of the discharge of the St. Alban's raiders, directing the military leaders on the frontier, in the event of a similar raid, to pursue the marauders if necessary, into Canada, and if arrested there, they are under no circumstances to be surrendered.

A Montreal telegram of the 14th says the St. Alban's raiders left the city immediately after they were discharged. The authorities are taking steps to arrest them.

A Toronto telegram of the 13th says the Lake Erie raiders were again before the court to day, but were discharged on the ground that the court had no jurisdiction. The result caused much excitement.

THE REAL OBJECT OF SHERMAN'S INVASION—A YANKEE VIEW OF IT.

The New York Times announces that it is not of those who expect vast advantages from Sherman's advance through Georgia, "viewed merely as a raid," and it goes on to give what, in its view, does constitute the advantages which are to arise from it:

Georgia is undoubtedly the granary of the Confederacy, and to destroy its harvests will cripple Lee's army this winter. The carrying off of cattle and horses will, beside, impair the transporting power of the rebel Confederacy. All these are benefits of some importance which we shall derive from Sherman's invasion.

But, on the other hand, the Confederacy is essentially an agricultural State. Vast breadths of land in South Carolina, Eastern Georgia and North Carolina, formerly planted with cotton, have been, during the last year, sown with wheat and corn. It will be exceedingly difficult to starve out such a community.

Again, a destructive invasion of this kind creates a vast number of new enemies. Every man robbed and stripped by the tempest of destruction now sweeping through Georgia is henceforth a hundred fold more bitter hater of the North and the Union than ever before. All doubtful and lukewarm Southerners in that State have undoubtedly become now intense secessionists. It is just as it would be here if Lee should sweep the banks of the Hudson in a broad track of desolation from Albany to New York, leaving nothing but blackened homesteads and wasted farms. There would be but one effect. Every Copperhead would become at once a violent Unionist, even perhaps a "black Abolitionist." Patriotism, hatred of the invader, would be ten-fold more strong; for there is a certain limit, beyond which, if you injure a man, nothing is left but hate and despair. Every raid into South or North has a tendency, without question, to "encourage enlistments" on the other side. Still, these are the necessary evils of war. It solidifies each side. A people like the Anglo-American could never be reduced to submission by burning their baths or plundering their houses.

The sole and grand importance of the invasion of Sherman we hold to be its military aim. The cities on his line of march are of no consequence to him unless he can destroy their depots of supplies and their arsenals. Savannah itself is of little importance, in a military point of view. The great ends gained by his bold movement will be the bissection of the great Southern railroad system; the large force of able bodied negroes he may acquire, both for further military and pioneer purposes, and, above all, the influence he will at once exert on the Virginia campaign. Gen. Sherman, we may be sure, with his long head, is aiming at something more than burning towns, grain, corn or clover, or capturing useless cities. He is, beside, only a lieutenant of Gen. Grant; his movement is merely part of the great strategic plan which covers the whole country.

Having gained a new base on the Georgia coast, rep provisioned his trains, renewed his ammunition and rested his men, we may confidently expect that his next movement will be northward. He may even pass by Savannah and Charleston both, make a new base at Bull's bay, and a se-

condary base at Branchville, and then easily hold both lines of the rebel railroad system—the upper and lower.—From this point he could easily operate toward North Carolina, sweeping the country before him, until he had formed a new base on the North Carolina coast and begun his grand final march into Virginia and the rear of Lee.

This would be the closing act of the rebellion, and Lee would be placed in even a worse position than was Cornwallis at Yorktown.

One *contretemps*, however, might occur, when these supposed movements could not prevent. If Hood should break through into East Tennessee, there would be a new line of communication found between the eastern and western sections of the Confederacy. Lee could be reinforced from the West, or he could retreat to the mountains, and transfer the war to Tennessee and Kentucky. We must hope that General Thomas will put a stop to any such concentration, and that that important mountain region will still be held by our forces.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

The proceedings are not of sufficient importance to interest our readers by detailed reports. We culled a few items of prominence from the proceedings of Tuesday.

In the Senate, Mr. Graham, offered a resolution instructing the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the Senate what disposition has been made of the machinery, implements, &c., of the Mint and Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C., and whether in his opinion, the work of coining and assaying gold and silver may not be resumed thereat without further delay; which was agreed to.

The bill for the employment of free negroes and slaves to work upon fortifications, &c., passed the Senate, after several amendments, among which was the following by Mr. Graham: That all slaves impressed as heretofore provided, shall be held to labor and service as aforesaid for a time not more than twelve months at any one time, except with the consent of the owner.

In the House, the currency bill was under discussion, in which some of the North Carolina delegation participated. Some amendments had been proposed.

Mr. Gilmer, of N. C., thought it best to carry out all the recommendations of the Secretary of the Treasury. The depreciation of the currency, in his opinion, is owing to the redundancy of the currency, and the belief on the part of the people that when the war is over it will not be redeemed, and also take such measures as will restore the confidence of the people in it. He consequently favored the bill as originally reported without the proposed amendments as to the change in the prices of the staples therein mentioned.

Mr. Smith, of North Carolina, offered a substitute for the 3d section of the bill, levying after the war a tax of 10 per cent. upon exports and imports. He estimated our exports according to the calculation of the Secretary of the Treasury, at three hundred millions.

Mr. Bridges, of N. C., opposed the substitute and advocated the original bill.

Mr. Foote called the question on the amendment when it was lost.

Transmigration of a Soul.—"Who goes there?" ANSWER.—The body of Sherman, occupied by the spirit of Louis de Luxenburg, Count of St. Paul, High Constable of France:

"Hark ye, my young friend," said Louis XI, King of France, (as Maitre Pierre,) to Quentin Durward, "you, who hold pillaging such a crime, do you know that your polite Count of St. Paul was the first who set the example of burning the country during the time of war, and that before the shameful devastation which he committed, open town and villages which made no resistance were spared on all sides?"

[Scott's Quentin Durward Chap. 4.]