THE INTELLIGENCER

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P. J. SINCLAIR, EDITOR.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1864.

OFF FOR THE COAL MINES.—Forty-three Yankee deserters, confined in Castle Thunder will be sent off this morning to Wilmington, N. C. It is the purpose to place them in the coal mines, and thereby make them useful to the Confederacy.—*Richmond Dispatch 23rd.*

The above squad of deserters are expected to pass through town to-day, on their way to the Egypt coal mines This is a voluntary act upon their part, preferring rather to be at work, than to be confined in Castle Thunder.

Our Cavalry Regiments.

We spoke in our yesterday's issue of the 5th Cavalry. Without taking them in order, we would like to make a few remarks upon the 3rd Cavalry, commanded by Col. John A. Baker.

This regiment has been unfortunate, they have been in service in North Carolina, and to be in North Carolina in service, is to receive no credit for that service, no matter how severe it may be.

The 3d [illegible] regiments. Gen D. H. [illegible] disciplined Cavalry regiment in the army, and the only one he had ever known in its place at the proper time

Some blame has been attempted to be attached to it, in the late raid upon Newbern, by irresponsible parties, which we are glad to learn, is utterly unfounded and untrue.

It appears, as we understand it, that Col. Baker was ordered to take his regiment through an almost impenetrable swamp to the Railroad, leading to Morehead City, and destroy as much of the track as possible. On arriving at the place designated in the orders, it was found to be impassible, but Col. Baker dismounted one of his companies and inflicted the damage ordered to be accomplished.

The fact of it is, the story was gotten up by irresponsible parties in the Virginia Brigade, and is manufactured out of the whole cloth.

The Currency Again.

Too much cannot be said against the reprehensible conduct of our people in leading the mind of the public astray upon this important subject.

An objection to funding out-standing Confederate notes is raised because the interest is only 4 per cent, and they have *twenty years to run.* This is, in fact, no objection at all. These bonds will be required to pay taxes, which, under the new tax law, will be very high. They can be purchased at any time until the first of April at par, and the bonds taken at any time during the year 1864, for taxes, at par. It is therefore a decided privilege which we would urge upon our readers to avail themselves of, to fund their Confederate money in 4 per cent bonds, while they can do so at par. But there is an additional advantage in funding in 4 per cent bonds. The bonds bearing 8 per cent interest and those bearing seven and six per cent interest, are all taxed 5 per cent, leaving only one, two and three per cent to the holder. On the contrary, the 4 per cent bonds are not at all taxed, hence they will pay more interest than either of the other issues of bonds.

Since the above was written, we find a very able article in the Richmond *Sentinel*, which we copy, and recommend to our people its careful perusal.

Let this work of depreciating the currency, unnecessarily cease. Everybody will require all the money they can get by the 1st of April. We hope, and believe, that money will be tight—tight as a brick—and every other article down to living rates.

SHERMAN'S CORPS.—The Richmond Dispatch of the 23d inst., says that the only news received yesterday from this corps of the Yankee army was an official dispatch to the War Department, stating that our cavalry had thrown itself between Sherman's force and the enemy's cavalry moving to his assistance, and that every confidence was felt that a junction of the two columns would be prevented. Already some fighting had taken place, but no particulars were given.

The *Rebel*, published at Morrisville, Ga., in its issue of the 21st inst., says that at present, it looks like the desperate resolution of the gamester who stakes all upon a single throw of the dice, and is ruined if he loses. If Sherman's army should meet with serious disaster, the whole aspect of the war will be changed, for the troops composing that army are absolutely essential to the safety of Gen. Grant's army, and to their occupancy of the territory they now hold, in the Spring campaign. Should Sherman's expedition be cut off, Grant and his cohorts will be at our mercy as soon as the condition of the roads will admit of an advance We are very sanguine in the opinion that "the Engineer will be hoisted with his own Petard." The yankees are now too far from water. Their gunboats cannot now protect them, or cover their retreat, in the event of a drubbing which they are very sure to receive.

The Mississippian says that the best estimate it has of the force of the enemy is as follows: Two columns of infantry, of thirty-five thousand men, and fifteen thousand cavalry. The advance guard consists of cavalry, followed by a column of infantry—then the wagon train, consisting of twelve hundred wagons, guarded on either side by a file of men four deep—then another column of infantry, with cavalry in the rear.

General Polk telegraphed on Tuesday that our cavalry had got between Sherman and his cavalry reinforcements, and had probably by that time engaged them; and he expresses a mortal disparage of the success of the expedition.

We have reason to state, from recent and reliable information, that no apprehension need be felt in regard to our troops confronting Sherman, nor indeed with reference to that section of the Confederacy. Ample arrangements have been made which will effectually checkmate his movements, and if successful will make this movement upon his part one of severe loss to his government.

Let us await the result with patience.

The object of the enemy is undoubtedly to gain possession of Mobile. After accomplishing this, Sherman would move through to Alabama, fall upon Johnson's flank while Grant would press his front, thus necessitating his retreat to some point near Milledgeville or Augusta Ga.

Should this movement of the enemy fail as we have no doubt it will—and should Sherman's corps be captured or dispersed, it would result disastrously to Grant and compel his retreat from Chattanooga.

The Habeas Corpus.

We notice that mostly all of our exchanges speak of the suspension of this writ as if Congress had merely conferred the power of its suspension upon the President, and that the *actual suspension is discretionary with President Davis.* This is a mistake. Congress has *actually* suspended the writ,—for the bill provides:

"That during the present invasion of the Confederate States the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus be, and the same is hereby suspended*; but such suspension shall apply only to the cases of persons arrested or detained by order of the President, Secretary of War, or the General officer commanding the Trans-Mississippi Military Department, by the authority and under the control of the President."

We see it stated in the Raleigh Confederate that Judge Pearson, on giving his opinion upon the late case involving the validity of the principals of substitutes to perform military service, remarked incidentally, not as a part of his decision in the case at all, that the late act of Congress suspending the writ of *habeas corpus* did not apply in the case of a principal and substitute.

Now we have opposed the passage of this law and have all along thought that it could injure the cause it was intended to benefit, but, *it is a law now*, and as a law our people had better understand its provisions.

It may appear like presumption upon our part to set up our judgment against his Honor Judge Pearson, but we may be permitted to ask how his Honor can get over the 5th case provided for in the act for the suspension of the writ? The 5th case in which the law provides that the writ be suspended is the case of "desertions or encouraging desertions, of harboring deserters, *and of attempts to avoid military service;* Provided, that in cases of palpable wrong and oppression by any subordinate officer, upon any party who does not legally owe military service, his superior officer shall grant prompt relief to the oppressed party, and the subordinate shall be dismissed from office."

It is clear from the above that any person who attempts to avoid military service—it matters not whether he be principal or conscript—he is deprived already of the writ.

The existence of palpable wrong in any arrest is to be decided not by any other party but by the commanding officer of the subordinate who makes the arrest; as for instance, in this State Col. Mallett will be the judge of the existence of oppression or wrong in the arrest.

The 3d section, however settles the question finally we think, upon this point. It provides:

"That during the suspension aforesaid *no military or other officer shall be compelled, in answer to any writ of habeas corpus, to appear in person, or to return the body of any person detained by him by the authority of the President, Secretary of War, or the general officer commanding the Trans-Mississippi Department;* but upon the certificate, under oath, of the officer having charge of any one so detained that such person so detained by him as a prisoner is under the authority aforesaid, further proceedings under the writ of *habeas corpus*, shall immediately cease and remain suspended as long as this act shall continue in force."

Now the enrollment of principals of substitutes by this "authority of the Secretary of War," and no officer, by this law, having a principal of a substitute under arrest, need at all answer to the writ in person, nor return the body of *any* person detained by him by authority of the President or Secretary of War. And it further provides that when the officer, holding such party in arrest, shall make oath that the arrest is by the authority of the President or Secretary of War, the proceedings under the writ shall cease. It seems to us that the case is conclusive under the late law of Congress.

The decisions in Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina are all adverse to the late decision of his Honor Judge Pearson.

THE REIGN OF THE BEAST.

In all the catalogue of devils in the flesh none can dare aspire to the distinguished title of superior or master while Beast Butler remains, as he does, pre-eminently the head and front of rascality and meanness.

The following order published and enforced by one of his subalterns, Gen. Wilde, who made himself so notorious by his acts of infamy during his recent expedition into the Eastern part of our State, is but an additional link in the chain that binds him closer to his master:

HEAD'RS NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH,
NORFOLK, VA., Feb'y 11, 1864.

General Order, No. 3.

All places of public worship in Norfolk and Portsmouth are hereby placed under the control of the Provost Marshals of Norfolk and Portsmouth respectively, who shall see the pulpits properly filled by displacing when necessary the present incumberts, and substituting men of known loyalty and the same sectarian denomination, either military or civil, subject to the approval of the commanding General.

They shall see that the churches are opened freely to all officers and soldiers, white or colored, at the usual hour of worship, and at other times, if desired; and they shall see that no insult or indignity be offered to them, either by word, look or gesture, on the part of the congregation.

The necessary expenses will be levied as far as possible, in accordance with the previous usages or regulations of each congregation.

No property shall be removed, either public or private, without permission from these headquarters. By command of Brig. Gen. E. A. Wilde.

GEO. H. JOHNSTON,
Capt. and A. A. G.

Official:
Handford Stuble, Lt. & A. A. D. C.

☞ We publish to-day a synopsis of the address of the 1st Congress to the people of the Confederate States. The full address is too long and tedious. It is, nevertheless, one of decided ability and will have a happy effect upon our people.

General Clingman's Brigade.

This gallant officer whose Brigade participated in the fighting on Morris-island during the Wagner fights at Charleston was treated with great injustice by the authorities there, and as a representative of North Carolina had not that courtesy offered him which he and his command justly merited.

It seems that no little jealousy of him was felt by General Ripley and Taliaferro who were on duty there. This was doubtless caused by the fact that when the Yankees first gained a footing on the Island, a council of war was called by General Beauregard (than whom no better, more skilful, or more chivalrous officer lives) to gain the opinions and information of his subordinates. At this council General Clingman advanced the opinion that the enemy might be easily driven from the island, as at times this was done before they got fortified in force, and he felt [illegible] in the defense of that position. He offered to take Battery Reluctant and drive them from their position, and [illegible] officer on his entire staff [illegible] Taliaferro, but General Beauregard saw what an advantage such a success would give us over the enemy, and sustained General Clingman in the opinion that they should be driven [illegible]

[illegible] General Clingman's [illegible] and ability.

On the morning which had been appointed for the attack the troops were assembled and prepared to go, but some body's courage had, like that of Bob Acres, "oozed out at his finger's ends" and General Beauregard was called upon to countermand his order, which he did very reluctantly. If Clingman had received justice at the hands of Ripley who commanded the District of Charleston, and been assigned to the command of the expedition there is no doubt the attack would have been made, a glorious triumph ensue, and to-day our "starry crossed banner" would float from Battery Wagner in the majestic grandeur of an imperial honor.

For the good of the service General Clingman submitted quietly to all the indignities heaped upon him, but by so doing he has lost none of the affection of his men or his countrymen, and all his sacrifices and services will yet be rewarded by the plaudit of a grateful people who will shower their loftiest and most worthy honors upon a worthy son of the "*Old North State*."

The statements herein contained are vouched for by an officer who was with General Clingman at Charleston, and who was privy to all the transactions to which we have alluded.

LT. COL. CANTWELL.—A letter from Lt. Col. Cantwell, now confined a prisoner at Johnson's Island was received in town on yesterday. The Col was well in health at the time of his writing but suffering from the monotony of camp life. He states that Col. Murchison, Lieut's Pearce and Shepherd of this town were well.

RESTORING THE UNION.—Not all the North-ern papers endorse Lincoln's farce of "coaxing" the seceded States "back into the Union." The Detroit *Free Press* (the organ of General Cass) says of the game being played in Arkansas.

The President says to the people of Arkansas, I will allow you to return to the Union but not under your own Constitution and the Constitution of the United States. You must first join the abolition party, and next you must make—or I will make for you—an abolition Constitution and abolition laws. If you don't do this, I'll send an army there to thrash you till you do it. I'll send Northern politicians to rule you—some consistent ban-tam like T. W. Lockwood, or some virtuous chieftain like Colonel Dorus Fox. I'll make you a Constitution, and enforce it upon you by bayonets, and the First Michigan Ethiopian. It is my will, and you must submit. You must accept this "unconditional Union-ism." The interests of God and humanity" require it, and the people of Massachesetts wish it.

FROM MOBILE.—Gov. Watts in his speech at the Battle House said, that he would rather see Mobile in ashes than have it come under Yankee rule. He advised all non-combatants to leave the city at once.

The Mobile Register states that non-combatants are leaving the city, and that Mobile is rapidly stripping itself for action.

The Mobile Tribune tells us that whenever Fort Powell, which commands Grant's Pass is captured, Forts Morgan and Gaines can avail nothing. The city, is then accessible without danger from these two massive fortifications Fort Powell is constructed after the manner of Fort Wagner; it is bomb-proof; the garrison small, and conscious, no doubt, that the fate of Mobile depends upon their endurance and heroism. If this Fort be captured there is an iron-clad ram in Mobile Bay which will dispose of any seagoing vessel.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.—Arrangements have been made between Generals Johnston and Grant for the early and equitable exchange, according to the usual regulations of such as may be captured by either side, within the departments commanded by their Generals. This humane agreement, if observed, will prevent the unnecessary suffering that inevitably attends the languishing for months in crowded hostile prisons, as is now the case.—*Atlanta Appeal.*

GEN. FINNEGAN.—Gen. Finnegan, the hero of Lake City, is an Irishman by birth. In early life he enlisted as a private in the United States regular army. After his discharge he removed to Florida, where he became employed, we are informed, as an engineer. By intelligence and good conduct he prospered in his affairs, married eligibly, and became a leading citizen. Since the breaking out of the war he has risen in the Confederate service, to the rank of Brig. Gen'l; and he has just won a victory which makes him famous at home and honored throughout the Confederacy. In him we have another reminder of the gratitude which we owe to our soldiers of foreign birth, and of the kindness which we should manifest to them.

A recent number of the London Times contains some very striking sentences. They relate to the present trade of Great Britain. They declare that England has never before known such prosperity as she is now enjoying. They adduce facts which confirm the declaration. This is truth in spite of the cotton famine; in spite of idle operatives and silent mills in Lancashire.

PROMOTION.—Colonel Clement H. Stevens, formely of the 24th S. C. Regiment, has been appointed a Bridgadier General, and assigned to the comand of Major General W. H. Walker's old Georgia Brigade.

From the Richmond Sentinel, Feb. 23.]

The Currency Act.

Our readers will find in our columns to day an official copy of the Currency Bill lately passed by Congress. Perhaps some remarks touching its provisions and probable operations will not be unacceptable. Our figures are not presented as strictly accurate, though they are approximately so, nor are our explanations and speculations anything more than our individual opinions.

The business of this act is with the currency, but its whole operation and bearing cannot be understood without reference also to the new Tax Law. Let us first take a view of the condition of the currency:

The total issue of Treasury notes to Jan'y 1, 1864 was ..... $[illegible]
From this amount taken in and cancelled (about) ..... [illegible]
Amount outstanding ..... $[illegible]
Deduct also the 5% interest [illegible] to be funded by section 13 ..... [illegible]
[illegible]
Amount of Treasury notes, now in circulation ..... $[illegible]

Let us secure a safe margin for our estimate by assuming the present amount of circulation at $[illegible]. To liquidate this [illegible] at the present time and the 1st of April next. The provisions of sections 2 and 4, of the act, will infallibly secure that. The next element of depletion will be the amount funded in four per cent. stock, prior to the 1st of April.—It might be supposed, at a casual glance, that small result are to be expected from this source; for the reason that the interest being only four cent, it would be as great a sacrifice to make such an investment as to wait the tax of thirty three and a third per cent. on the currency, to be imposed on the 1st of April. But this is an error. Section 2 makes a great difference in the values of the bonds and of the notes, for the uses of the year 1864. The bonds are receivable according to their face, in payment of all Government dues for 1864, while the currency, after the 1st of April, will be subjected to a tax or discount of one-third. Suppose, for example, a citizen should owe a tax to the Government, on the 1st of July, of two thousand dollars. By investing that amount of the preset currency in a Treasury bond, at any time between the present and the 1st of April, he will have the mean of paying his tax without loss. But, if he fail to provide himself with such a bond, and present himself, currency in hand, to the collector, it will require three thousand dollars of the same currency to pay the tax of two thousand dollars. It is not to be supposed that men will be so negligent of their interests as to fail to invest in four per cent. bonds at least enough to meet their anticipated taxes. If any individuals concerned shall be too dull or careless to make such provision, capitalists will do it for them, and make them pay a large premium for their neglect

The amount which will be invested as a provision for paying taxes may be conjectured from the probable amount of taxes to be paid during the year. In the last report of the Secretary of the Treasury, &c., levied in April, 1863, and still in force, are estimated at a hundred millions per annum, The taxes just imposed are *in addition* to these, A tax of five per cennt. on real and personal estate, is estimated in the same report, as promising a gross revenue of a hundred and fifty millions. But the late tax act does more than levy a tax of five per cent. on real and personal estate. It lays heavy additional duties on profits and [illegible] higher than five per cent. on some articles. The tax laws of April, 1863, and February, 1864, in their combined action, will not, probably, yield less than three hundred millions of dollars during the present year.

We find from this examination, that between the present time and the 1st of April—just five weeks from next Friday—there will exist the *necessity* for funding a very large amount. The hundred dollar notes, when funded, would furnish the bonds, in part, with which taxes can be paid; but this sum is insufficient, and as it is not likely that they can be exactly distributed, the bonds would not avail to their full extent. Besides this particular prescribed issue, probably not less than a hundred and fifty millions will need to be funded. These subtractions will reduce the present circulation to four hundred millions. To this must be added the further issues allowed until the 1st of April, and we have at that time a total circulation of about $[illegible]. In reaching this result, which is only about three-fifths of the present circulation, we have estimated only for the *necessary* funding. That which may be voluntary we throw in to make the figures good.

It is obvious, that the great and immediate demand thus created for money by this necessity for funding to which we have referred, and the consequent reduction of the currency to little more than half its present volume, must greatly increase the value of the currency, and, consequently, its purchasing power. If there be any truth in the theory that prices are in proportion to the circulation, then prices must soon and rapidly fall. But there is a still better reason to expect this effect. Holders of property have had comparatively little use for money. The necessity of providing means to pay their taxes will make them let go their surplus supplies, and put them on the market.

The figures which we have given, should teach the holders of Confederate money not to undereate it, or to consider its value as diminished, by the late laws. At present, there seems a sort of inconsiderate and senseless panic, which is sending victims in crowds to the nets of the speculators. Persons are, without necessity, paying out, in enormous prices, the very money which they should be investing in bonds to pay their taxes. Even the money which they need not thus appropriate, and which is to be taxed one third its face, after the 1st of April, should not be lavished away; for the diminished circulation—diminished by the previous funding, and diminished still further by the April tax—will make the residue much more valuable than the full amount before the passage of the law

Our inference is this: Every one should estimate the amount of his taxes for the year, and fund at once at least enough to meet them. And all purchasers, who can, ought to keep out of the market just now. The coming demand for money, and its consequent increased value will kill the present panic in two or three weeks, and prices will descend To those who desire to get high prices, the present is the opportunity: Men will regain their composure in a short time, and then they will see the folly of those who are now throwing away their money in their anxiety to get rid of it

One word as to our future circulation—Some are supposing that the new law gives unlimited power to make new issues, and anticipate, therefore, that the coming depletion will be followed be a redundancy equal to the present. This is an error. Section 5th prohibits the issue of new notes, except to two-thirds of the amount of the old notes taken in, whether by funding or exchange. The highest limit, therefore, to which the currency can hereafter attain is two-thirds of its present magnitude. The means for carrying on the Government, if the taxes prove insufficient, are to be obtained by the sale of bonds [see sections 6 and 7) and by certificates of indebtedness. [see sec. 14.)

The Dixie gun, invented by Mr. Kirtly of Kentucky; it is said will be able to fire about 1,000 shots per minute. We learn he will soon take his model on to Richmond.

The Richmond Examiner says of the Currency:

The sufferers by the tax and by the contraction of prices and currency will not be the tax payers,—will not be the people; but will be the speculators. These last have had their saturnalia; tribulation is now in store for them. The prudent ones will reef sail and make ready for the storm, the rash and headstrong, spoiled by success, will go on in new ventures. Since finance has had a history, contractions of the currency have invariably been attended by collapse and bankruptcy. The contraction about to be effected in the circulation of the Confederacy will bring its harvest of disastrous failures, crushed hopes, and blasted fortunes. The effect will be as wide-spread as that of frost upon the prudent vegetation of premature spring.

Among the business classes, while the prevailing disposition of the moneyed to change money into property at reduced rates. This tendency will not last long. [illegible] money will be [illegible] [illegible] into a short and reduced [illegible] dollar and the most promising speculations will shrivel into losses.

When several hundred millions of [illegible] to be paid, it is folly to say that Confederate money is of no worth. As it begins to [illegible] circulation into the [illegible] will be [illegible] [illegible] on property which in [illegible] have doubled in our prices, will [illegible] their value thought and want of sense. How can several hundred millions of taxes be drawn from the people without producing an eager and exhausting demand for money? Money will not long be a drug; it will be the very thing which everybody will want which everybody must have, which very many will have to buy with property, or borrow on mortgage.

Fund Your Money.

The South Carolinian thus discourses:

In these troublous times, when not the want but the very plethora of money is the root of evil, and men are casting about them for "safe investments," it becomes us as journalists to offer a bit sage advice, suggested by the currency bill just passed by Congress. Fund your money; bury it in four per cents; buy provisions that you expect to consume before the first of April; loan it to your friends; pay them a premium for shouldering it out of your sight; get rid of the stuff somehow—anyhow—but get rid of it. The universal desire has already begun its manifestations, and money is becoming a drug. We are glad to see it. We want a new start financially, and the bill seems destined to give us a sudden bust upwards or downwards—which, to say the least, will be refreshing.

On one occasion, the eccentric John Randolph, while sitting at a table, had brought to him some miserable concoction that passed for tea. He tasted it, laid down his spoon in disgust, and called the servant. "What will you have, sir?" "A cup of tea." "That is tea before you, sir." "Well, if this is tea," squeaked the irate statesman, "bring me coffee, and if its coffee bring me tea. I want a change." We are precisely in the same condition We want a change, and whether it be for better or for worse, we will take the chances of improvement, feeling assured that almost any substitute for the present ragged system will turn up in the end a blessing.

HAVE WE ANY LIKE HIM IN OUR MIDST?—A citizen of Houston communicates the following to the Texas Telegraph:

On yesterday I called upon Dr. Robinson, one of the principal physicians of Houston, for my medical bill and that of my daughter, whose husband is in the army of Tennessee, and the Doctor replied that he had no account against either of us; that Congress exempted him, from military duty on account of his being a physician, and left him at home to provide for and enjoy the society of his family, consequently he felt it to be his duty to serve soldiers' families free of charge—that he would make enough out of those who were at home making fortunes, to afford him a living, and as a living for his family was all that he wanted to make during the war, he was satisfied.

THE CURRENCY.—There is already manifest in the business of Richmond a cheering prospect of the probable operations of the new currency bill. It is understood that the city banks have agreed to invest in the new four per cents. to the extent of five or six millions. Between the present time and the 1st of April, tax-payers will be under the necessity of investing in these bonds to the extent of three hundred millions of dollars. We may add to this a very considerable amount on account of voluntary funding, as these bonds at par offer perhaps, the best paper investment in the Confederacy, which the banks already show signs of appreciating.—*Richmond Examiner.*

MRS PATTERSON ALLAN—SHE IS ADMITTED TO BAIL.—The examination of Mrs. Patterson Allan, charged with attempting to communicate with the public enemy by letter, and thereby giving aid and comfort to the same, was on Friday concluded before Confederate Commissioner Watson, who, refusing bail, sent her on to the Confederate Court to be tried for high treason. On Saturday, Counsel of the accused, Messrs. Geo. W. Randolph, and James Lyons, made an application for bail before Judge Halyburton, which having been heard, the Judge admitted her to bail in the sum of $10,000 to appear before the Confederate Court on the 16th of March, and answer for the offence with which she stands charged.

THE Cincinnati *Commercial* of the 10th, says that it has authentic occasion for saying that Gen. Grant under no circumstances will be a candidate for the Presidency, or permit his name to come before a National Convention for such purpose, if his positive declination of the honor will prevent it. So far as his opinions are known, he is in favor of the renomination and re-election of Mr. Lincoln

A GRAVE JOKE.—Some wags took a drunken fellow, placed him in a coffin with the lid left so that he could easily raise it, placed him in a graveyard, and waited to see the effect. After a short time the fumes of the liquor left him, and his position being rather confined, he burst the lid off, sat bolt upright, and after looking around, exclaimed, "Well, I'm the first that's rid of else I'm much belated!

ANOTHER STAMPEDE.—Twenty-two of the Yankee prisoners confined in the building opposite Castle Thunder, made their escape therefrom on yesterday afternoon, by cutting through a partition wall. Sixteen of them were soon after retaken and returned to their place of confinement. *Sentinel, 22d inst.*

GEN. BRECKINRIDGE.—This distinguished officer was serenaded at Augusta, Geo., on Wednesday evening last. He responded with a speech, the whole tenor of which, we are told, was exceedingly encouraging, fervid and eloquent, and was received with enthusiastic applause.

DESERTERS.—Some of the U. S. newspapers are candid enough to discredit the ridiculous stories, which others of them assert, of numerous desertions from our army to theirs. The following dispatch we take from a New York paper:

WASHINGTON, Feb'y 4.—Greatly exaggerated reports have been published as to the number of rebel deserters received by the Army of the Potomac.

The Address of Congress to the People of the Confederate States.

In the House of Representatives, Wednesday last, Mr. Conrey, of Alabama, made a report from the joint committee of the two Houses appointed under a resolution to prepare an address to the people of the Confederate States.

[illegible] and opens with a review of the events which have occurred under circumstances of the most [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] dependent [illegible] [illegible] tyrannical [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]