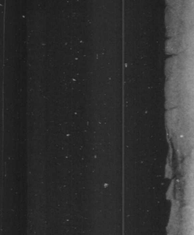
The American Sentinel.

WESTMINSTER:

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1862.



Flag of the free heart's hope and home!
By angel hands to Valor given!
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,
And all thy hues were born in Heaven.
Forever float that standard sheet! [us,
Where breathes the foe but falls before
With freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us?

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Re-Organization of Democracy.

The Democratic papers throughout the State are loudly calling for a reconstruction of the Democratic party, but none of them, as far as we have seen, has advanced a platform of principles, or even designated their file leaders. Now in a matter of so grave an importance to the country, as the organization of a powerful political party, some position should be assumed in the commencement that would at least define a portion of the programme. Will the Democrats of Maryland rally along with Andy Johnston, Stanton, Dix and other patriotic Democrats, who are now sustaining President Lincln in his efforts to maintain the Union, or will they cast their lot with Vallandigham, Breckinridge, and others of their fellow partizans of the same kidney, in their sympathies for Jeff. Davis and the Southern Confederacy, and lend their aid in the determination to destroy the Government and the Union. These two great opposing principles now absorb every other consideration, and they are as opposite as the poles, as different as light and darkness. It was said by one whose wisdom was never questioned, that "no man can serve two masters," and the time has now come for all to choose between patriotism and justice on one side, and treason, perjury and wrong on the other. A partizan name can no longer cover up the evil doer and the traitor from that universal execration and disgust which his acts inspire in every true and loyal breast. Let no one therefore be misled by the old and honored name of Democracy to cast his lot with a party who may have for their leaders such traitors as Breckinridge and Vallandigham, and whose only end and aim aspires to the destruction of our Government and the building up of an oligarchy more tyrannical than even history furnishes any record. Democracy in former times, was a safe fold, in which men could confidently trust, but by harboring the refugees of all parties, soothing the wounded aspirations of all disappointed office-seekers of other organizations who flew to them for protection and political preferefice, it became one festering mass of corruption which needed but the Charleston Convention to ripen it to maturity. No one can be too careful at present as to their future movements, a single political mis-step might insolve a position of shame and disgrace that a life of penitence would not obliterate.

A Policy Wanted.

The unenviable position which Maryland holds to-day among the loyal States, is less owing to the efforts of the Secessionists than it is to the indecision and want of unity of purpose of her weak-kneed and tender-footed Unionists. If we had been terribly in earnest a year ago, and had pursued a straight forward course, Secessionism would have been so effectually flattened out long ago, that no one with rebel sympathies would now dare show his head or open his lips in our State. But a large portion of our chosen leaders halted, and wavered and entered protests against this, that, and the other measure which the Government thought proper to pursue, until the State was saved in spite of them. Then we elected a Legislature that we were induced to believe would pass some of the most stringent laws against Secessionism and Treason that had ever been recorded upon any statute book. But after a long and weary session we found our Legislature had been blatant, and vacillating and inefficient. The people who had hoped for better things were disgusted and turned away hopeless almost, of ever being able to accomplish the object nearest their hearts, that is, to prove by their acts that they were devoted to the Union, and determined to crush out this foul and damnable Rebellion. And now again, since the passage of the Emancipation resolution and bill abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia the same craven cry is being raised, and the same lack of decision being exhibited, that well nigh ruined us last spring.

The men we have placed in power, and the men who aspire to represent the State and speak for us, or a large majority, of them, have proved themselves unfitted for the positions, and unworthy to be our leaders. They have shown, and are showing themselves to be timid, time-serving politicians, or ambitious demagogues who do not understand the temper of the times.—We have sinned away much of our precious inheritance by following blindly in their wake and listening to their foolish counsels. We have been delayed by their slipshod, down-at-the-heel policy of neutrality and inaction, and while all the other border States—Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee—have struck Treason some heavy blows, poor old Maryland has done nothing for the good cause. Is this to continue? Are we determined to jogger along at the same old gait, and blate out the same old slang about such and such things being "impolitic," "inexpedient," "having a tendency to weaken the Union sentiment in the State," &c. &c. &c.? or are we going to strike hands and close ranks with the men who are striving by vigorous and effective measures properly directed, to save the Union? Let us in God's name have done with this dilly-dallying, and initiate a policy and pursue it. The masses are loyal, and in earnest; and the hour has come when we must trample down the corrupt, and timid, and short-sighted leaders we have been following, and put in their places, true, brave men who have the good of the country alone at heart, and will dare to do right without backing and filling, or halting to trim sail every few days or weeks. The salvation of Maryland and of the Union depends upon the people—the politicians have ruled and ruined too long. Let them see to it that they perform their duty in this hour of National peril.—*Cecil Whig.*

Gen. McClellan.

Some years ago, while Mr. Cobden, of England, was travelling in this country he was introduced to Jeff. Davis, who, in the course of conversation, said that McClellan was the ablest general in the Union, and that he would be fully able to carry it through any military crisis which might occur. And yet Jeff is foolhardy enough, in taking command of the rebel army at Yorktown, to test his declaration as to the skill and ability of the commander of the Union forces.

One Year of War.

Do we realize that we have passed through one year of war? Have we really comprehended the magnitude of the rebellion—the widest spread and most formidable the world ever saw? Have we a just conception of the number of lives already sacrificed, and to be sacrificed, and the amount of treasure which the effectual crushing out of the rebellion will cost?—We believe we have not. We who live up here in the heart of the loyal old Keystone, know nothing of the devastation which has marked the course of the traitorous armies of the South. We have not been molested in any manner, have enjoyed unbounded prosperity, and are therefore unable to properly sympathise with those who live South of Mason and Dixon's line. We hear of their sufferings, but not seeing them, we sooner forget them; and we believe the half has not been told us.

One year ago on April 12th, 1861, at four o'clock in the morning, the fiends (we can call them nothing less, because they are the authors of this war and its attendant miseries) who compose the rebel army of South Carolina, opened their batteries on the brave little garrison of Fort Sumter. On the next day Major Anderson surrendered. In an incredibly short space of time the electric wire had flashed the news all over the continent, and as quickly fired the great heart of the people of the North. What an excitement is created.—Business seemed paralized, and while thousands threw themselves forward to defend the capital, which was suddenly menaced, others stood waiting as if to see what an other day might bring forth. All will remember what a week of excitement we passed through just one year ago.—How our blood boiled when we received the news of the massacre of loyal troops by the traitors of Baltimore, and how we feared for the safety of the National Capitol. We scarcely knew who were our friends and who our foes, as there were traitors all over the country. The rush of troops from the West kept up the excitement for several weeks, but it eventually calmed, and business was transacted as usual. The terrible reverse to our arms at Bull Run threw a damper on our hopes, and on business for a time, but from under this cloud we passed more quickly, and each reverse, of which we suffered quite a number during the first six or eight months, produced less effect, until we are now scarcely more effected by the result of a battle than if it had taken place in some other continent.

The *Evening Bulletin* in commenting upon the first year of the war, says that the first six or eight months were spent in preparation, and our arms suffered, during that period, several severe reverses. But the tide has turned. We have had victory after victory, each one surpassing its predecessor in magnitude. The flag of the Union, rudely and insultingly torn down in every one of the slave States, now floats everywhere in Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri, and has been raised in triumph in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Arkansas and Tennessee. Texas is the only State that has not yet been reached by the arms of the Union; but we hope she will not be much longer neglected. Before many months we hope to be able to say that no flag, except the star-spangled banner, floats in any part of any of the Southern States. The Government has done a mighty work during its first year of war; but it is only at the beginning, and its preparations are so immense, that we venture to predict that before another year goes round, we shall have peace and union restored once more and forever.—*Altoona Tribune.*

Taxation.

As our present prospects are, almost every one is meditating upon the evils of taxation, thinking where it may fall, and perhaps planning how to escape some of its burdens. The truth is, few of us have any such patriotism, as would enable us cheerfully to make those sacrifices for the good of our country which we so much approve in others, and to which to some extent, we shall soon be compelled under the acts of Congress about to be passed. We have our revenues, from labor or property; and those, in most cases, are barely sufficient for the mode of life to which we are accustomed. A few dollars only, subtracted from our usual income, may compel us to some sacrifice of what we are wont to consider the necessaries of life; and thus add a shade of disquietude in the forms and measures of it already fixed in our experience.

Here we contemplate a seeming evil, and shrink from it as from any other assault of misfortune or loss. But it is now entirely inevitable, and must be endured, whatever may be our feelings or judgment concerning it. In those circumstances, and as the burden may be a permanent one, it is a matter of simple prudence, and of duty too, that we should consider the subject in its true light, and demean ourselves accordingly. The considerations that follow may help us to regain a just equanimity, and to throw off the weight which a complaining spirit might add to such as we must inevitably bear.

In the first place, this evil comes upon us providentially. It is not one that we are conscious of having brought upon ourselves, by any act of sin or folly. We may admit that we deserve it, and far more, on account of various faults in our lives: but as a people we are conscious of no special wrong-doing to call for other penalties than those commonly visited upon mankind. This rebellion therefore, is not wholly a punishment for specific offences, but also, and we trust rather to be viewed as a needed discipline by which great good is to be wrought in our behalf. Let us then, as the Christian does in private affairs, look for good overbalancing by far all the evil that we have to encounter. What God takes from us in one form he will more than restore in another, if we look to Him and cheerfully perform the new duties imposed upon us. It is with Him that "we have to do" in this matter, as in all the concerns of our lives; and while we conform ourselves cheerfully to his dealings, we shall suffer from the hand of man no real and ultimate harm. Again: it is a law of life that for all good things we must pay taxes; and, as a general rule, the better a thing is the higher the tax. The rich man pays in proportion to his estate, and would be very foolish to complain because he pays more than his neighbor.

We are to be taxed, (heavily in comparison with former times) for a good government, and one extended over so much contiguous territory as to give us the advantages of a powerful nation. Could we have the advantage without inconvenient pecuniary cost, it would certainly be more agreeable; but that it would be better in the long run, we have no right to assume. Our duty and privilege is to accept the favor from the Divine hand, believing that the cost imposed upon us is wisely determined, and may therefore be defrayed without fear of ultimate loss.—*Princeton Standard.*

How They Express Themselves.

The Confederate prisoners (Ashby's Cavalry,) now in jail are being daily visited by the Committee of the Union Relief Association, and express surprise as well as gratification at the kindness shown them. The men openly and emphatically declare, in the presence of their officers, that their enlistment was a matter of coercion, and deprecate any effort to be exchanged. They would rather, (to use their own language,) rot in jail than to be arrayed against the Government of the United States.—*Balt. Clipper.*

News of the Week.

The Norfolk *Day Book*, received by flag of truce at Fortress Monroe, contains a despatch, dated at New Orleans on the 23d, Wednesday last, which states that a heavy and continuous bombardment had been opened by our naval forces on Fort Jackson and was still in progress. Gen. Lovell represents the fire as terrific. The Rebels in the fort claim an ability to resist the attack, but admit that they were making repairs as best they could and that most of their barbette guns had been disabled at times. They assert that our forces had fired twenty-five thousand 13-inch shells (a preposterous story,) of which one thousand had fallen within the fort. There is little doubt that the fort has been captured by this time. The naval force engaged in this work consists of Com. Farragut's squadron, comprising such war steamers as the Hartford, Richmond and Brooklyn, and of Com. Porter's mortar fleet.

We learn from Western Virginia that on Monday last Gen. Milroy overtook the rear guard of the enemy's cavalry, near Buffalo Gap, Augusta county. Their main body were making for the railroad at Staunton, but finding that they were cut off by Gen. Banks, they fled southwest, through Bath and Alleghany counties, toward the James River. It seems that nearly all the Rebels are now chased out of Western Virginia.

Col. Corcoran has been heard from, under date of Richmond, the 19th inst. He says that, while he is anxious to be honorably released, he is content patiently to await proper action.

The French Minister authorizes a denial of the Rebel report that he held official communication with the Richmond authorities. The report that Lord Lyons contemplated visiting Richmond is also denied.

A late despatch received last night from General McClellan and also one from the correspondent of the Associated Press, give the particulars of a gallant assault and capture of a Rebel earthwork by five companies of the Massachusetts First and Eleventh Regiments, with a loss of three killed and twelve wounded. They also captured thirteen prisoners and destroyed the work, which was intended to harass our gunners in working one of the batteries.—There was considerable cannonading along the lines yesterday to check the progress of our works, which was, however, not responded to, it being the intention of General McClellan to use none of his siege guns until all are in position. One of the gunboats shelled the Rebel works at Yorktown, which responded without damage. Saturday the Rebels succeeded, after nineteen shots, in striking a canal boat passing into Warwick creek from the York river.

A despatch from Chicago reports deserters from Beauregard's army to be flocking to General Halleck, who state that the hero of Sumter is evacuating Corinth and sending portions of his army to the defence of Memphis. A despatch from General Halleck, on the other hand, reports the enemy as being strongly reinforced.

A Word in Season.

The Martinsburg, Va., *American* very justly and truthfully remarks:

The time is at hand for all those who have aided or encouraged the Rebellion by their votes or opinions, to behold them what they shall be, in view of the re-established power here of the Government of the United States. This is important, in reference to their own interests and a return to the calm and harmonious pursuits of the general business of the community. Any suggestion from us may be but lightly regarded, yet we will assume to say a word to those who propose to remain here and to prosecute their usual avocations.—A moments' reflection should satisfy them that absolute and unqualified submission to the General Government is their only alternative—not to say their highest duty. No matter how conscientious any of them may have been in their belief in the right of a State to secede, or in the binding efficacy of a State vote in favor of it—no matter how satisfied any one may have been that there was cause for *revolution*—now that the authority of the Government has been restored, they can only submit to its behests, if they remain within its limits. Just as those, who repudiated this Rebellion and the right of secession, were compelled, while they remained in the State and when the Confederate power, military and civil, was extended over them to submit to its laws, unless they preferred punishment and a prison. Resistance would have effected nothing and, in this condition of things, to have exacted allegiance to a power, that could not have protected them, would have been contrary to the rights and duties of man, in relation to the *actual power* that is dominant over him. You may not like a law or a government under which you live; but, so long as you are under it, and are powerless to remedy it, you must acknowledge its practical supremacy, while it exists. Any other line of action is suicidal and deprives you, if you defy its requirements, of whatever benefits the Government may confer upon you, in the protection of your property and person—the very end for which each one attaches himself to any civil society. We can, then, only offer this counsel to those who, to say the least, have so flagrantly gone astray after the *veiled Prophet* of Secession, and in whose ears is, even now, ringing the false God's withering rebuke—

"Here, ye wise Saints, behold your light, your star,
Ye would be fools and victims and ye are."

The Great Battle at Hand.

The armies near Corinth appear to be approaching each other once more, and we may expect at any moment to hear of another battle in that region, which may be decisive of the contest in the Southwest, for a defeat of Beauregard's army will most assuredly finish the work. A desperate struggle will no doubt ensue if the rebels determine to hold their ground and risk a fight, which it is probable will be the case, as Gen. Mitchell's operations in their rear will soon cut off all supplies, and they will be obliged to take some decisive action. Our accounts from Gen. Halleck's army induce the belief that he has so reorganized his forces since the late battle, and sent off all the wounded out of the way, as to enable him to be ready for the conflict; and the decisiveness of character and skill which is universally conceded to our General, induces the utmost confidence that the result of the next conflict will be in favor of the Union cause, and decisive of the war.

Fort Wright or Pillow, it appears, is stronger than was supposed, and will require more time than was anticipated to subdue it. This may possibly delay the forces of General Pope from taking part in the attack on Beauregard. But with such commanders before the enemy's works as Foote and Pope, the country has every assurance that the work will be most thoroughly done, and at the earliest possible moment.

We next turn to Yorktown and the Potomac, and we find Generals McClellan, McDowell and Banks regularly making their approaches to the rebels, and we may expect at any moment to hear of a blow which will finish the Confederate army at the East by General McClellan, as we hope for a like result at the Southwest by Gen. Halleck.

Death of Major Talbot.

Major Talbot, one of the heroes of Fort Sumter, died in Washington city on Wednesday night, aged about 38 years. His funeral took place on Friday. After the fall of Sumter Talbot, who was then a First Lieutenant of the regular army, was promoted to a Major. He was a gallant officer, a genial gentleman and a scholar. Talbot's health was seriously injured while on duty at Fort Sumter, and he never afterwards recovered it.

The Martinsburg American.

We are again in receipt of this paper, ably edited by Mr. A. T. Mateux, after a suspension of some ten months, during a part of which time the Editor was pressed into the Confederate service. Speaking of the state of affairs in Martinsburg at present, he says: The 24 day of March, 1862, and the 3rd of July, 1861, will form two memorable epochs in the history of Martinsburg. The latter marked the entry of the Federal troops under Gen. Patterson to the number of about 15,000; the former the advance of Gen. Lander's, now Gen. Shields' division, consisting of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Connecticut volunteers to the number of 16,000 or 17,000 troops. These have for the most part gone up the Valley, and are now, with Gen. Banks' force in Shenandoah County, near Woodstock.

The advance of the Union troops into our town was hailed by many of our citizens with exulting manifestations of pleasure. Many gave vent to their feelings in open and public expressions, whilst others contented themselves with more quiet congratulations. The old Flag now floats freely to the breeze from the Cupola of the Court House, a contribution from a number of our citizens who were exiled to Maryland by the reign of terror existing here since last September. It required no persuasion to induce our people to raise the Stars and Stripes, but it proceeded from the spontaneous inspiration of hearts and hands that felt free from the despicable tyranny that had been oppressing them for the past half year, and had well nigh effected results that would have been deplored in after times. The Rebels may be assured that

Let Jeff. Davis do as he will,
Berkeley is for the Union still,

and that their reign in the Valley of Virginia is ended and gone to the ages before the flood. This territory can never be located in the jurisdiction of Dixie and the Cotton Oligrachy.

But of all those who rejoiced, the families of those loyal men who were compelled to leave their homes and firesides, or steep their souls in treason by bearing arms against their government, had the most cause for congratulations. There were many happy re-unions, never more, we trust, to be interrupted by a similar cause.

Negro Testimony.

Much exasperation is attempted to be created on the street corners by persons who imagine or affect to believe, that the provisions of the act to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, place a negro on the equality with white men. We have already expressed the opinion that the Act does not change the Rules of Evidence heretofore existing in the Courts of the District. Its phraseology, (we quote from the 5th section,) is: "That said Commissioners * * * shall have the power to subpœna and compel the attendance of witnesses, and to receive testimony and enforce its production, *as in civil cases before courts of justice*, without exclusion of any witness on account of color," &c.

At most this article only entitles negro testimony, for specific purposes, to be received by the Commissioners on Emancipation, and even there it must stand on its credibility and is liable to be impeached. The Commissioners nominated are ex-Mayor Berrett of Washington, recently a noted sympathizer with the Rebellion, who declines to serve; D. B. Goodloe, a North Carolinian by birth, and S. R. Vinton, formerly a leading whig representative of Ohio, but now a conservative Republican.

But if we be wrong, and if the intention of the law, or any act shall turn out to be the equal admission of negro and white testimony in courts of law, it only amounts to the removal of a disability incident to the institution of slavery, and which must be removed so soon as domestic slavery ceases. In nineteen of the United States negroes are permitted to testify, without exclusion on account of color, and it is only in Slave States, where the law establishes social distinctions, that negro testimony is debarred.

It is, of course, intolerable in slaveholding communities, that the negro should be permitted to testify against the white man; such a liberty would speedily incite discontent, and lead to social disorders of magnitude and incessant recurrence.—*Fred'k. Examiner.*

Pertinent and True.

The Philadelphia Ledger, in some comments on the "retiring" tactics of the Rebels, says:

"But the singular part of the matter is this, that the worst Rebels will 'retire' with and in the armies of our foes, but leave behind their wives and children to our protection and care, and absolutely to be fed by rations from our army stores or starve. Look at Winchester, the scene of Rebel resistance. The fiercest Secession families in that place remained in their houses or walked out and insulted our soldiers, while at the same time claiming protection. They feared no evil nor received any. Their houses stand and they remain and secretly correspond with the enemy. The country round Manassas had been desolated by Rebel occupation, not by fear of our armies. So at Hampton and on the peninsula below Yorktown.—Our troops find that the men have 'retired' to the Rebel army, leaving their women and children to the protection of the troops these men are waring against, well knowing that they are as safe as if their husbands and fathers were at home protesting. One of the most singular facts of this rebellion is, the greater confidence the Rebels have in the protection of our Government and army than they have in the security afforded by their own."

An Unmitigated Liar!

In Beauregard's letter to Gen. Grant, asking permission to send a party for the purpose of giving interment to the rebels killed in the battle of Pittsburg Landing, he utters this audacious lie:—"I deem it proper to say that I am asking only what I have extended to your own countrymen under similar circumstances." It is impossible that a miserant and ingrate, who has revelled upon the generosity of the Government he is now assailing, should have forgotten the barbarities perpetrated under his own eye, after the conflict of Bull Run, upon the remains of the Union soldiers, or his heartless reply to the sister of Col. James Cameron, when she pleaded with him for the remains of her brother. When the information called for by Senator Sumner's resolution is laid before the country, attested, as *it will be*, by the most distinguished witnesses, among them Governor Sprague, of Rhode Island, the atrocities committed by Beauregard's brigands will inflict a new stigma upon his dishonored name, and arouse the indignation of the civilized world.

Rebel Repentance.

Letters are daily received at Nashville from private soldiers and subordinate officers taken at Fort Donelson to prominent citizens, in which they express a desire to return to loyalty, and denounce the insurrection in which they have been engaged as foolish and wicked. One says, in a letter to a loyal man of distinction:

"I think,——, I have now suffered about enough for the foolish course I took in joining the army; for you know no man had greater opposition to secession or fought it harder than I did. You remember that my little district went entire for the Union; that we were called Lincoln men; and when we voted for you and——, we were hunted down. It is strange I should have been in arms, after resisting so long, but you know the pressure of these times."

It is such men as this poor fellow who merit kind attention from their captors.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HARRISS, APRIL 26, 1862.

MR. EDITOR:—The Rebels are every day losing their confidence in the instigators of rebellion, who have greatly deluded them by the absurd and irrational belief that England and France would certainly have recognized the so-called Southern Confederacy, long ere this. Even the leaders themselves, have been deceived, after beguiling the people into the vain expectation, that all, and more than their anticipations would to a certainty be realized before three months after the Ordinance of Secession was passed in South Carolina. During the Mason and Slidell affair, two insignificant emissaries of a revolted District, who were going abroad to procure recognition and aid from foreign powers, and who were not worth two men fighting about, and consequently not worth two nations going to war for; the Charleston Mercury, one of the leading Confederate journals, declares that "the Commissioners were authorized to make the most tempting offers ever tendered by one government to another." England evidently did not feel inclined to accept those "tempting offers," probably through *apprehension* of involving themselves in a needless war with the United States. The Rebels had confidently entertained the sanguine assurance, that England and France, would be constrained, for the want of cotton, to contribute such assistance as they might consider proper to dictate. They undoubtedly by this time, have seen their mistake; and doubtless feel deeply chagrined at its result.

It would be perfectly useless, for any one to attempt, the enumeration of the depredations which have marked the rebels' wild career of rapine and plunder, ever since the 20th of Dec. 1860 when South Carolina, without deliberating on the consequences, she so deservedly merited, passed the sacrilegious Ordinance of Secession. That was a diabolical and flagitious act, more worthy the fiends of the infernal regions, than civilized men, of rending asunder, by the despicable and ruthless hands of secession, this glorious Union, consecrated by Washington and the patriots to posterity. A long wail of anguish arose from the brave sons of America, at hearing the startling intelligence, that South Carolina had broken the golden bowl of Union; and plucked with the hand of desecration, one star from the bright constellation of the Star Spangled Banner. It roused the dormant spirit of patriotism that burned with the courage and valor of '76. The war-cry rang over the land, calling the peaceful husbandmen from his honest toil to *preserve and protect the Union.* The implements of agriculture were quickly exchanged for those of war, and the mountain shook with the heavy tramp of men in arms, rushing to save our national standard from the hands of rebellion. South Carolina fired the first hostile gun,—and consequently begun the war which has since involved so many thousands in ruin and desolation! She seized public property, that she had no more right to than she had to the Capitol of the United States; property that had been constructed at a heavy cost by the Federal Government, and thus she put the Government at open defiance. Would it have been just in the Government, to passively let such outrages as these be perpetrated with impunity upon America's nationality, and its emblem? Would that have they gained by the civil war into which they have plunged with such precipitation? Their rights! Are they more secure than they were? The security of slave property? Is it safer now amid the tempest of war, than it was under the Constitution of the United States?

There is no alternative for the South, she must come back to her old allegiance, under the Star Spangled Banner; but she will return with her name blotted by ignominy and infamy. The annals of her former glory, will be forever sullied by her subsequent rebellion from the best Government that ever was established on the Globe.

Books and Periodicals.

RURAL REGISTER.—This excellent agricultural journal is already on hand, and embraces as usual a very general variety of practical articles on farming, gardening, floriculture, fruit-growing, the rearing of live stock, besides a general miscellany, rendering it a most valuable aid to every country family.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK.—The May number of Godey is received, and is an excellent number both in point of literature and embellishments. We have so often referred our readers to Godey's Magazine that any further commendation is unnecessary from us. You can only realize its worth by subscribing for it with out delay. Hand in your names and we'll secure a copy for you.

PETERSON'S MAGAZINE.—The May number of Peterson is on hand as usual, an excellent number. The engraving of "Spring Flowers" is beautiful, life-like and natural, while the other embellishments, sixty-four in number, are of unusual excellence. The articles are highly interesting and entertaining. Peterson is determined not to be outdone.

ARTHUR'S HOME MAGAZINE.—Arthur is on hand for May and presents a table of contents that cannot fail to recommend its worth. This is a respectable, and the Magazine for the home circle, and should be a regular visitor in every family.

HARPER'S MONTHLY.—Harper is punctual as time itself. Harper makes his welcome appearance. The present number completes the 24th volume, and is therefore an excellent time to subscribe. It is a popular illustrated Magazine. Harper has no rival, and should be in the hands of every lover of literature in the land. So we presume every that all other, be interested who will give it a perusal.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY.—The May number of this sterling periodical is before us, and presents a table of contents interesting and varied. The articles appearing in this work will be found deep and profound and well worthy a careful perusal. The straight forward, open and consistent course pursued throughout our National difficulties, has greatly endeared it to the American people.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.—The April number of the American edition of this standard Foreign periodical is already received, and from a hasty glance at its contents, we think it unusually interesting. The unprecedented popularity that this publication has attained in America, is a sufficient guarantee of its value as a correct chronicler of events.

We will send for and procure all or any of the above publications, for any of our friends who may desire them. Send in the names.

Atrocities of the Rebels.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—The Committee on the Conduct of the War have completed their examination of witnesses in regard to the alleged atrocities of the Rebels at Ball Run, and will this week make a personal inspection at that place, and soon there after present their report.

Members of the Committee says that it is true, according to the testimony of Gov. Sprague and many others, that in some cases the graves which contained the bones of the dead carried off by the rebels as trinkets and trophies by secession ladies, to append to their guard chains, &c., while skulls were used for drinking cups.—Those of our dead interred by them, were placed with their faces downward, and in repeated instances buried one across another. The barbarities in respect to our dead, are not, it is further said by the same authority, exceeded by anything in the history of the last four thousand years, even in the details of savage practices.

The Committee, under the resolution of inquiry are receiving testimony from Pea Ridge, showing incontestibly that their own dead were not only scalped by the Rebels' Indian allies, but in other respects outraged, the brains of wounded, too, being beaten out by clubs, thus confirming previous newspaper report.

Important from New Orleans.

The Cincinnati Commercial of Friday says:—A foreign resident of New Orleans lately passed through our city en route for Europe, who gave very interesting details of the condition of things in the Crescent city and in the rebel army.

New Orleans, he represented to be in a very distressed and only partially defended condition. Foreign residents of wealth were despairing of the restoration of trade and so far as possible, had already left or were preparing to go—most of them leaving either for the West Indies or Europe. The banks were abundantly supplied with specie—about $18,000,000—but there was scarcely any in circulation, and Confederate money was only worth 40 cents on the dollar. Citizens engaged as home militia were more engaged in police service than in the defence of the city from apprehended attack, and only a feeble resistance could be made against a well organized force.

Every hope of their protection against the Union army, as well there as throughout the Southwest, was hung upon the success of the army concentrating at Corinth, and consequently all available war material, particularly in the way of men was going thither.

A company, comprising leading and prominent merchants, bank officers, presidents of insurance companies, &c., had been formed and sent to Corinth, mainly to act in stimulating others to go.

The vigilance committee impressed men without hesitation, taking them at any time and from any place.

The Peabody Donations.

Geo. Peabody, the American banker in London, whose magnificent gift of £150,000 to the poor of that city has excited so much comment and praise from the London press, has, during his successful career given away to charitable objects no less than one million eight hundred thousand dollars. He is a native of Danvers, Massachusetts, and a descendant of the pilgrims, his ancestors having emigrated from St. Albans to New England in 1635. He began life poor, as an office boy, when eleven years old. At fifteen he was a merchant, and at twenty-seven a partner in a Baltimore house, with branches both at New York and Philadelphia. In 1837 he went to England, and, entering the banking business in London, has since remained there.

Local Items.

Desirable Property in Market.—

The attention of our readers is directed to the advertisement of Mr. JOSHUA SWITZER, in another column, who offers for sale some very desirable property at Union Bridge, the terminus of the Western Maryland Railroad. To persons desirous of entering into business this property presents inducements rarely met with. A plat of the property may be seen at our office.

Fine Building.—

Our enterprising neighbor J. REIFSNIDER, is putting up an elegant Brick Dwelling, adjoining his lumber yard, near the Depot, which when finished, will greatly add to the appearance of that portion of the town. As that section has now became the great business mart, and there still remains more vacant lots, well adapted for improvements, we hope during the summer to see them all occupied, and fine substantial structures placed upon them.

Business Reviving.—

Every day we hear less complaints of the stringency of the times, and the depression of business, and things are assuming a more lively and healthful prospect. Our mechanics all appear busy as in former years, while our merchants, most of whom are noted as liberal advertisers, are daily selling large quantities of goods. A firmer confidence has been established, and the prospect of an extraordinarily brisk season is everywhere apparent. The prospect of an abundant harvest also stimulates our farmers and extends a healthful influence to all departments of business.

Army Correspondence.—

We have on hand two legthy communications from friends in the Army, which the crowded state of our columns this week has unavoidably crowded out. We have been too much employed as yet to give them a thorough perusal, we will do so, however, and if possible lay them before our readers next week. The fact that most of the information contained in those letters is published before they reach us, detracts greatly from their interest, while their length almost precludes their publication for want of room. We are at all times anxious to gratify their numerous friends in our midst, yet oftentimes are compel led to defer those communications alone for want of space.

Train's Great Speeches.—

Through the kindness of T. B Peterson & Brothers, Publishers, Philadelphia, we are in possession of an advance copy of the great Speeches of GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN, delivered in London, on the subject of Slavery and Emancipation, and also on the Pardoning of Traitors. This is a work that should be read by all, and is furnished by Peterson at Twenty Five cents per copy.

We have also received from the same publishers a highly interesting Story of Domestic Life, entitled "The Channings" by Mrs. Henry Wood. The work contains 302 closely printed pages, and is retailed at 50 cents. Peterson's is decidedly the cheapest Publishing house we know of, and persons wishing to purchase Books of any description would do well to send for their catalogue.

CAPTURE OF NEW ORLEANS.

THE NEWS CONFIRMED.

Cotton and Steamboats burned by the Confederates.—Great Consternation among the Inhabitants.

We have by the mail of Tuesday the gratifying intelligence of the capture of New Orleans by the Federal Troops on Thursday of last Week.

The announcement reaches us by way of Fortress Monroe from a Petersburg paper brought in by a contraband, and also from General McDowell, at Fredericksburg, who finds the announcement in the Richmond *Dispatch* of Friday, received within his lines. Both accounts state that the Rebels destroyed all the cotton and steamboats, except such of the latter as were used to take away troops and munitions of war. This is most gratifying intelligence, and shows that Commodores Farragut and Porter must have followed up their victory over the forts with most commendable alacrity. We now also immoderately expect to hear of the fall of Savannah and the capture of Memphis by General Halleck and Commodore Foote, leaving Charleston, Mobile, Richmond and Norfolk as the only important positions yet in possession of the enemy. Verily the work goes bravely on.

Resolutions of Loyalty.

The Philadelphia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church closed its annual session on Friday week. It is said to have been one of the most interesting convocations ever held by this large and intelligent body of Christain ministers.—Among its proceedings we are gratified to find the following very proper and excellently expressed resolutions:

Resolved, That the Government, the Army and the Navy, have our deepest sympathy and fervent prayers, and that we pledge our influence to encourage and assist them in their noble and righteous deeds to protect the honor of our flag, the integrity of the Constitution, and the maintenance of our glorious Union.

Resolved, That we will cheerfully bear our portion of any tax or taxes that be required by the Government to defray the expenses of the war.

Resolved, That while we confess our sins, and humbly prostrate ourselves before the Almighty God, we thankfully receive the many victories which have crowned our arms, as tokens of his favor, and with gratitude and hope we lift our hearts to Him by whom kings reign and princes decree justice, that victories may continue to bless us until our brethren, North and South, East and West, again united, may "learn war no more."

How They do in St. Louis.

As the Rebel prisoners from the South passed through the streets of St. Louis on Tuesday, on their way to the military prison, a number of Secesh women, collected at the house of one William Bell, waved Rebel flags, and indulged in other manifestations of sympathy for the prisoners and insult to National troops. The Provost Marshal, learning the facts, sent a guard to prevent all ingress and egress to and from Bell's house, thus making it a prison for the confinement of its inmates until further orders. When the stock of provisions in the house gives out, the women will be served with army rations like other prisoners. The same course will be pursued toward other Rebel fashionables in future, who persist in violating rules and insulting Government troops and officers.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.

Tumors and swellings. These medicines have entirely dispensed with the use of the knife, to which the patient frequently succumbed from sheer exhaustion. A thorough cure can only be produced by a complete change in the blood, and Holloway's remedies will accomplish this most effectually. Sold everywhere. 160

GREAT EXCITEMENT AT NORFOLK.

Apprehensions of an attack from General Burnside.

NEW YORK, April 28.—A special despatch to the Times, dated Fortress Monroe the 27th, says:

It is stated by the contrabands who arrived here to-day that the most intense excitement exists in and around Norfolk, and there is great fear of an attack from General Burnside.

Nearly all the troops have gone to South Mills to repel any advance he might make.

They also state that the prow of the Merrimac is twelve feet long, of wrought iron, and steel-pointed.

Many citizens were leaving Norfolk.

The fall of New Orleans was conceded by every one.

The Siege of Yorktown.

The approaches to Yorktown are being slowly but surely made. The work goes bravely on. Though all are busy, there is but little or nothing that is proper to make public, so long as Secesh can readily procure the Northern papers. This is Saturday noon, the seventh day of the week, and it is raining as steadily as though we had been suffering from a long dry spell. But two days of this week has the sun dared to shine upon us the whole day.

We have a shot occasionally from a Rebel battery, which does no harm; we answer it, with probably the same result. Our fire this comes up occasionally and fires a few shells at a distance of from two and a half to three miles; they mostly fall short, but sometimes explode right in Yorktown or over their works; then they return the fire, and send one or two balls at us, and hurt "nobody."

Latest from Corinth.

General Halleck is reported to be in motion toward Corinth, and the Rebels are also said to be in motion toward Memphis. Corinth becomes untenable by the fall of New Orleans and the success of General Mitchell on the line of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, whose occupation of Tuscumbia threatens the rear of Corinth, and cuts off all possible receipt of assistance to the Rebels from the East. They must give way toward Memphis, unless in such strength as to be able to hold or take the open field against Halleck's army. Clearly they do not believe themselves able to try another fight, or else they are playing a game with the purpose of entrapping our forces into an untenable position. In this last purpose they will not succeed, it is safe to say.

WRECKS OF HUMANITY.

WHY SHOULD THEY SINK?

The excitement of "the chase" has always been supposed to have a healthful tendency; but there is a kind of chase which breaks down the constitution, debilitates the frame, and shortens life. We mean the headlong, unintermitting hunt after "the almighty dollar," which is the great business characteristic of the present day. It begets other evils (unnecessary to name) which precipitate the fate of thousands. There is, however, a possibility of recovery from the prostration produced by these causes, long after their victim has ceased to hope for it. If we are rightly informed, the most astonishing cures of what is called general weakness and debility, which have ever been known in this country, have been effected through the agency of Doctor HOLLOWAY's inestimable remedies. Mere skeletons of men, out of whom the very principle of vitality seemed to have been drained, have been restored to health and vigor by the operation of the Pills; and of the Ointment, in cases of paralysis, rheumatism, &c., we hear an equally favorable account. If men *will* break down their energies by over exertion—if in their anxiety to "go ahead," they *will* override the most precious of God's blessings, health—it is well they should know how to repair the mischief, when they come at last to realize the fact of their premature decay. The wrecks of humanity, who without any particular disease, appear to be sinking from mere exhaustion, would find without doubt, immediate relief from Doctor Holloway's remedies.—*Phil. "Tribune."* No. 4

TO NERVOUS SUFFERERS OF BOTH SEXES.

A Retired Clergyman having been rest