city, and was to bring my wife in the same way. She was taken to a stable, and put into a barrel and headed up. He took her through the city as he did me, but the mule had worked all the day before, and would not draw well, so they had to stop and rest, which made it 12:30 at midnight when she got there. She got into the barrel at 4 p.m., so she was eight hours and a half therein.

On the road one of the rebels got into the waggon and sat on the barrel she was in, and rode half a mile in that way, and only the power of the Almighty kept the barrel from breaking and bringing her to light. After she got there, she could not move, and was drenched with perspiration. We fanned her, and finally managed to restore her. We staid there till Wednesday, 12:30 midnight. We walked three miles through a swamp, with the water up to our knees. After we got to this point, we had to cross a railroad bridge about fifty feet high. We walked across on the sleepers. It was about half a mile long, and was on the Charleston and Savannah railroad. About a quarter of a mile beyond was a boat that my friend, the driver of the vegetable waggon, had brought for me. I found a man there who wanted to escape, but did not dare venture; but I persuaded him to go with us. We then started. We had fifteen miles to go before we could get to the Federal blockade, and on the way we had to pass a rebel gunboat and a fort. I meant to wait till the tide fell, so that the gunboat would go back in the Cut where she lay at low water, but I did not see her till I got close upon her, and heard the men talking, and looked up and saw them on the deck. I kept close to the marsh, so they might not see me, and managed to get round the point. About a mile and a half above this point was the fort which I had to pass. I passed the fort in the same way as I passed the boat. After I got a little beyond, I crossed on to the same shore that she was, and after I got a little way along the shore, day broke as clear as could be. I looked back and could not see the fort, and I knew I was out of their reach. About two hours and a half later we reached the Federal gunboats in Stono river. When I got in sight of the Union boats I raised a white flag, and when I came near, they cheered me, and pointed to the flagship Pawnee. There I had the pleasure of a breakfast of hot coffee, ham, nice butter, and all under the American flag—all strange things in Charleston. There I gave the Almighty praise and glory for delivering me so far. On board the Pawnee I told the Captain about Charleston harbor, and how the vessels run the blockade, and the next day but one they took two vessels from the information I gave them. Then we were put on board a transport vessel for Port Royal and reached there in safety. Capt. Elwell, Chief Quartermaster, gave me a piece of land, and I built me a little house. I waited on Capt. Elwell, and my wife washed for him and other officers. My wife used to sew for Gen Hunter's wife, and about a week before we came North Gen. Hunter gave me a paper that made me forever free. Capt. Elwell seemed to be the man that the Almighty raised up for my help, for he was like a father to me, and I shall always bless him and pray the Almighty to protect and prosper him in all his ways. He went with me to Gen. Hunter to get my free paper, and cared for me to the last moment. When I think of his kindness, I say the Lord will never leave nor forsake me, for He raised him up for my comfort when I was seeking the freedom which I now rejoice in, and for which I shall always praise the Almighty. WILLIAM SUMMERSON.

MR. CONWAY'S RESOLUTIONS.

THE following are the resolutions lately introduced in the U. S. House of Representatives by Mr. Conway of Kansas, and laid on the table, Mr. C. himself only voting in the negative.

Resolved, That freedom and slavery cannot coexist in the same government without producing endless strife and civil war; that "a house divided against itself cannot stand"; and that "this nation must be all free or all slave."

Resolved, That the American Union consists of those States which are now loyal to the Federal Constitution.

Resolved, That whether the seceded States have accomplished a revolution or not, they have lost their place in the Union and all right to its guaranties; and that the Union has a claim to their territory, never to be relinquished, but to be asserted by arms or otherwise, now and hereafter.

Resolved, That the restoration of the Union as it existed prior to the rebellion, would be a greater calamity than the rebellion itself, as it would give new life to the "irrepressible conflict," and entail upon the nation another cycle of bitter contention and civil war.

Resolved, That the seceded States can never be put down but by being regarded as out of constitutional relations with the Union, and by being assailed upon principles of ordinary warfare as between separate nations.

Resolved, That if any person in the employment of the United States, in either the legislative or executive branches, should propose to make peace, or should accept or advise the acceptance of any such proposition, on any basis which would restore the Slave Power to its former supremacy in the government; or by any new compromise or amendment to the Constitution, recognize slavery as an element of political power, such person will be guilty of a high crime.

Resolved, That the superior resources and military prowess of the North in this struggle are beyond dispute, and that the question of its success turns not upon its relative ability, but on the fitness of its Chief Executive Magistrate for giving effect to its power.

Resolved, That it is unsafe to entrust the execution of any system of administration to persons who are not in cordial sympathy therewith; and that no change of policy in the conduct of the men is more than nominal, which is not accompanied by a complete change in the *personnel* of the Executive Department.

Resolved, That it is a matter for serious reflection whether another election of President must not supervene before the rightful authority of the nation can be established; and whether, in the mean time, it is not a flagrant waste of our energies to continue the war.

Resolved, That unless the Army of the West shall have swept through the Valley of the Mississippi to its mouth, and the Army of the Potomac annihilated the legions of Lee and Jackson, thus subverting the military power of the rebellion, within a reasonable time, the best interests of the country and humanity will require a cessation of hostilities.

Resolved, That the States of the North, composing the American nation, and wielding its power, must ever remain one and indivisible on the basis of freedom for all, without distinction of race, color or condition; that their mission must ever be to extend their own civilization over the entire continent, and that whatever derangements, difficulties, checks or defeats they may encounter they must forever cherish and pursue the inspiring idea of nationality and continental dominion.

GERRIT SMITH spoke "On the State of the Country" at the Cooper Institute on Sunday evening last, to a crowded audience, presenting with great clearness the argument for Emancipation as the only way of salvation for the country. His address, in short, was in support of the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted at the close by the unanimous vote of the audience:

Whereas, It is no less true of a nation than of an individual that to be just is to be saved, and to be unjust is to be lost; and,

Whereas, Among all the greatest violations of justice, slavery is preeminent,

Resolved, Therefore, that, whatever the things which need to be done by the nation, in order to be saved, the penitent putting away of slavery must not be left undone.

"Father Kemp's Old Folks," being present, delighted the audience by singing some of their old-fashioned pieces, very appropriate to the time and place.

INSULTING THE DEAD.—In the Court House at White Plains, Westchester County, N. Y., hangs a portrait of the late HON WILLIAM JAY, who for so long a period presided therein as a magistrate. It was placed there several years ago by the Board of Supervisors, in accordance with the wish of the Bar, of which Judge Jay was an eminent member. Recently, certain leading Democratic politicians of the County devised a plan to remove the portrait, alleging that, as the subject lived and died an Abolitionist, he did not deserve to be thus honored. The proposition, however, excited so much indignation among men of all parties, that the resolution to remove the picture was indefinitely postponed in the Democratic Board of Supervisors.

MILITARY GOVERNOR OF FLORIDA.—A delegation of Congressmen, headed by Vice-President Hamlin, lately presented to Mr. Lincoln a petition of loyal Floridians that Eli Thayer be made Military Governor of Florida, with authority to enlist and take to his command 20,000 emigrants of a fighting breed. The petition was endorsed by 134 members of Congress, and bore Gen. Hunter's certificate of approval. The President gave the subject most favorable attention, and promised speedy action.

TWO CANDIDATES.—In the Newbern (N. C.) District, where an election for member of Congress has been ordered, there are two candidates—one on the platform of free labor and the other in opposition to the Confiscation and Emancipation acts. The latter receives the active support and aid of Gov. Stanley, and will doubtless be elected.

HONESTY is the best policy in medicine as well as in other things. AYER'S SARSAPARILLA is a genuine preparation of that unequalled Spring medicine and blood purifier, decidedly superior to the poor imitations heretofore in the market. Trial proves it.

Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1862.

I WRITE under the disadvantage of being in the midst of contest—a difficulty which is not yet settled, and yet which doubtless will be composed before this is printed and reaches your readers. I allude, of course, to the Cabinet imbroglio. Mr. Seward has resigned, but the question is will he *stay* so? Before going into this question, however, let me say a few words respecting the causes that have led to Mr. Seward's resignation. I have not been backward in this correspondence in expressing my opinion of Mr. Seward, and your readers know very well that the Cabinet has not been a unit upon the subject of slavery. The weakness of the Administration has arisen from this want of congruity in the Cabinet. Mr. Chase has been firmly anti-slavery all the time, from the first, never changing. Mr. Seward was opposed at first to meddling at all with slavery—wanted it understood that the Union "as it was" was to be restored, but gradually, after terrible disasters, came into the support of the Emancipation policy of the President. And yet he has supported it very faintly and feebly, and though he has *written* tolerably well in his later dispatches, yet it is well known that he has *said* things he ought not to have said upon the subject since those later dispatches were sent off. In short, it has been almost impossible to ascertain his *real* sentiments on the Emancipation question. He has talked so singularly to his friends, so variantly that even they, however intimate with him, could not venture to speak *positively* of his position. So to-day the Border State men claim that Mr. Seward went out of the Cabinet because he was opposed to the Emancipation policy of the President, while other people say there is not a word of truth in it. It is evident enough that there was cause for an explosion—there was cause for the resignation. But what the *exact* cause was perhaps no one but Mr. Seward knows. It is probable, however, that the simple fact, that so many Republican Senators were in favor of his resignation, caused it. The Senate caucus did the work, no doubt. Some of the most prominent men in the Senate long ago lost faith in Mr. Seward, and he could not go on much longer without resenting the distrust in his loyalty to the Republican party. Mr. Blair was with Mr. Seward warmly. The two have stood together on various questions. Both were friends of McClellan, and were opposed to his removal; both agreed on the slavery question, at least up to the issuance of the proclamation, and it is now said that if one has gone out of the Cabinet, the other should follow suit.

It is claimed by a great many intelligent persons here, and many of them Republicans, that if Mr. Seward goes out, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Blair and Gen. Halleck should do the same—Halleck leaving the army. In other words, they demand a general break-up of the Cabinet, and the construction of a new one, with Seward, Smith, Blair and Stanton left out, and a new man in general command of the army of the United States. It is alleged that Stanton is very unpopular, that he has blundered terribly, that Halleck has shown himself to be incompetent for the command of the troops in the service of the United States, and that there shall be a general overhauling of the incompetents.

And here lies the difficulty in the way of permitting Mr. Seward to resign. The anti-slavery Republicans have lost confidence in him, yet it is said that if he resigns, other members of the Cabinet must also get out of the way—hence these members may be interested in persuading Mr. Seward to reconsider his determination. There is still another view of the subject that has given the President a great deal of trouble, and has led some of the very best members of the Cabinet to doubt the wisdom of permitting Mr. Seward to retire. It is the effect abroad. The retirement of the Secretary of State and a general break-up, it is said, would have a disastrous effect abroad, for it would be misinterpreted and misunderstood. How much weight there is in these suggestions I am incompetent to judge, but they have had a great deal in the mind of the President.

Should it turn out that the difficulty has been patched up, there is one consolation to the friends of freedom—Mr. Seward will have had his warning, and in fact if Mr. Seward remains and the Proclamation is issued upon the first of January, all will be well. It will be a certain indication that he heartily accedes to the Emancipation Proclamation and the general policy of the President upon the subject. If, on the other hand, there is a break up of the Cabinet, and all its members retire, the new Cabinet will undoubtedly represent the policy of the President. He cannot possibly commit such a blunder as to try on his old plan of mixing up incongruous elements in his Cabinet. If he does, he is doomed. There are reasons why Mr. Lincoln may cling to his old Cabinet entire, just as it was before Mr. Seward resigned, but if he is compelled to make a new Cabinet, there will be no excuse for putting men together in an Administration who differ with each other almost radically on the slavery question. It is said that Mr. Fessenden refuses to go into the Cabinet unless there is an entire break-up. But I do not believe that the President has yet gone so far as to offer a place in the Cabinet to any one. He is still trying to harmonize the old materials.

But enough of this vexatious subject. I will take up a pleasanter one. The Border State men have been trying of late to *coax* the President out of his Proclamation of Emancipation. They even went so far as to send a formal deputation to him on the subject—to beseech him to give way, to abandon his mad design of destroying the institution of slavery. They got no comfort from the President. The only thing he said, which is liable to misconstruction, was, that when the first of January came round, he would endeavor to do what was right, and if the Union could be saved without the Proclamation he would forego it. But he immediately said to one of the Kentucky members, "You know me, and when I tell you that I have made up my mind that slavery is the right arm of the rebellion, you will be convinced that it is my purpose to *lop it off*." This is very nearly the language used by the President. It does not seem possible that he has a thought of backing down. I do not believe that he has. Certainly if he does, it will be owing to the Cabinet complications which will have crazed his brain. Such a thing is impossible.

There is a profound despondency because of the reverse at Fredericksburg. Perhaps I should say *there was*, for the tone of public sentiment is rising. That of the army itself is splendid. So long as the people and the army have good pluck, there is everything to hope for as we still are vastly the superiors of the rebels in numbers and the munitions of war. We shall triumph yet, if the people can endure the generalship of our side—if our reverses do not break their spirit. I am surprised to hear of the condition of the army. It is not in the least daunted by the repulse, and would fight as bravely to-day as it ever has done. This is wonderful under the circumstances. I am told that, the day before the crossing of the Rappahannock was attempted, the troops were in magnificent spirits. They never were in a finer condition under McClellan, and had entirely lost that feeling of sadness and regret which is consequent upon a change of commanders. There were *officers* who had not forgotten McClellan, and *they* did not feel very bad over the reverse. It is but just, however, to say that these officers were few in number. All who engaged in battle that memorable day acted their part *well*.

We will soon hear encouraging news. The first item of it comes from North Carolina. Gen. Foster has beaten the rebels and captured Kinston. Before long we have a right to expect that Charleston and Mobile will be captured. This is in the programme, and Mr. Welles has the month of January in which to accomplish these victories. He is dependent, however, upon Gen. Halleck, to a great extent, for a land force to cooperate with the navy, and Gen. Halleck is a very obstinate man. Put him in the field, and he is every whit as cautious as McClellan. But in spite of blunders and the obstinacy of officials, the good time of military success is coming. AYON.

NOTICE.—The call for copies of "The Anti-Slavery History of the John Brown Year" has been so considerable, that no more copies can be sent for the amount of postage, as heretofore offered.

FOR GRATUITOUS DISTRIBUTION.—The valuable and still timely tract, by Mrs. L. Maria Child, entitled, "The Right Way the Safe Way, proved by Emancipation in the British West Indies, and elsewhere" (108 pages), will be sent by mail to any person requesting it, and enclosing *six cents* in undefaced postage stamps. Address SAMUEL MAY, Jr., 221 *Washington Street, Boston.*

Proceedings of Congress.

In the Senate on the 18th, Mr. Wilkinson (Repub., Minnesota) offered a resolution that the Committee on the Conduct of the War be directed to inquire into the facts relative to the recent battle at Fredericksburg, Va., and particularly as to what officer or officers are responsible for the assault which was made upon the enemy's works, and also for the delay which occurred in preparing to meet the enemy. Amended, so as to direct that the Committee report the result of their investigations to the Senate, and adopted.

Mr. Sumner (Rep., Mass.) offered a resolution requesting the President (if not incompatible with the public interest) to communicate to the Senate any information he may have in his possession, showing why Gen. Saxton was removed from his command at Hilton Head. [The report of Gen. Saxton's removal turns out to be false.]

On the 19th Mr. Henderson of Missouri introduced an important bill, granting the aid of the United States to the State of Missouri to emancipate the slaves in said State. It provides that whenever satisfactory evidence shall be presented to the President of the United States that the State of Missouri, through its General Assembly or other properly constituted authority, has adopted a law, ordinance or other provision for the gradual or immediate emancipation of all the slaves in said State, it shall be his duty, assisted by the Secretary of the Treasury, to prepare and deliver to the Governor of said State, as hereinafter provided, to be used by said State to compensate for inconvenience, produced by such change of system, bonds of the United States to the amount of twenty-five millions of dollars, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, and payable thirty years after the date thereof; provided that said bonds shall not be delivered as herein directed, unless the act of emancipation shall be adopted by said State within eighteen months after the passage of this act, nor unless said act shall provide that slavery or involuntary servitude within said State, except in punishment of crime, shall forever cease and determine on some day not later than the 4th day of July, 1865. The bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Pomeroy (Rep., Kansas) called up the resolution for a Joint Committee on the President's Message relative to compensating States for the emancipation of their slaves. Mr. Sumner (Rep., Mass.) thought that we should not organize any more Committees. We have now a Committee in the Senate to whom all constitutional questions were referred. The resolution was postponed.

In the House on the 17th, in Committee of the Whole, Mr. Noell of Mo. made a strong speech in support of the Administration and exposing the spirit and designs of the pro-slavery Democracy. He said: "When slavery comes in as an element of rebel strength, and the question is presented between its perpetuation and the preservation of the Union, then let the former die. He would so act in the suppression of the rebellion, that slavery should never again produce results similar to those now witnessed. He was against compromise with men who were now endeavoring to break up the government. He would agree to nothing but absolute submission on their part. He spoke the opinions of the straight-out loyal men of the Border States. He advocated emancipation in the Border slave States. He stood by the government, by such men as Andrew Johnson. There were but two parties, one for war, the other for compromise. He would not lend himself to any scheme to produce strife among the people, to divide the national councils, and weaken and unnerve the arm of the government and strengthen the cause of the enemy."

On the 18th, Mr. Bingham (Rep., Ohio), from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported back the bill extending relief to loyal men for slaves wrongfully taken or abstracted, with a recommendation that it do not pass.

Mr. Wickliffe (pro-slav., Ky.) who had originally introduced the bill, remarked that it had been referred to the Committee of the Judiciary, contrary to his wishes. His preference was to have it referred to a Select Committee. He did not, however, despair of satisfying the House that some legislation on this subject was necessary. The bill did not interfere with the new article of war forbidding any army or naval officer from returning fugitive slaves.

A long debate ensued, in the course of which Mr. Lovejoy (Rep., Ill.) said he was weary of this persistent and shameless attempt on the part of the slaveholders.

Mr. Wickliffe (from the other side of the hall.)—Do you call this a shameless attempt?

Mr. Lovejoy—I do call it a shameless attempt.

Mr. Wickliffe—I am not at all surprised to hear that from your standing and position on this floor.

Mr. Lovejoy—I call it a persistent and shameless attempt on the part of slaveholders to get the army of the United States—these volunteers, who have, of their own free will, offered up their lives as a sacrifice on the altar of their country—to turn themselves to the base business of chasing fugitive slaves. And, in this, the gentleman from Kentucky has the effrontery to appeal to the justice of the Republicans. What justice is there in holding any one as a slave? They all have the right to run away. There is just as much justice in delivering slaveholders into the hands of the slave as in delivering slaves into the hands of the slaveholders. The former might be done with great propriety, for the slaves are superior to them mentally, physically and morally; besides, their loyalty is undoubted. I protest against bringing before the House this miserable ulcer, which is sought to be uncovered here. If the rebels have friends and sympathizers on this floor, they could not do anything more than they have done to retain their positions in this hall.

Mr. Bingham (Rep., Ohio) replying to Mr. Wickliffe, said the reference of this bill to the Judiciary Committee was the proper one. In his opinion it was a violation of the Constitution, and if the principle should be established it would return some day to torment the inventor. The bill authorizes the Federal government to interfere with the rendition and determination of fugitive cases within the limits of the States, in a manner unknown to the Constitution. The Federal government cannot, by law, intervene in any State. He had heard this reiterated more than once, and not more frequently than by the gentleman from Kentucky. It was a cowardly, mean attempt to induce the House to send back to the enemy slaves who had fled to the flag of their native country for protection, and to return them to the hell of human bondage. No glossing over could conceal this. The bill was finally laid on the table, 85 against 45.

In the Senate on Monday, Mr. Lane (Rep., Ind.) made an earnest speech in support of the President's right to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus*. On Tuesday he gave notice of a bill to authorize the President to raise two hundred regiments of infantry composed of persons of African descent.

In the House on Monday, Mr. Vallandigham introduced a "peace" resolution, proposing to stop the war and to alter the Constitution in such a way as to secure the "rights" of the South. Laid over. Mr. Pendleton (Dem., Ohio) offered the protest and remonstrance of 36 members of the House against the alleged unconstitutionality of the bill lately passed to indemnify the President and others for suspending the writ of *habeas corpus*. Laid on the table, ayes 75 nays 40. Mr. Bingham (Rep., Ohio) introduced a bill for the emancipation of the slaves of rebels in the States and Territories of the United States. Referred. Mr. Bingham also moved that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from the further consideration of the bill declaratory of emancipation of slaves in rebel States and Territories. The motion was lost, two-thirds not voting in the affirmative. Mr. White (Rep., Ind.), from the Select Committee on Border State Emancipation, asked leave to report a bill appropriating twenty million to aid Missouri in emancipating her slaves, and that it be recommitted to the Select Committee. Agreed to—77 against 33.

On Tuesday, in Committee of the Whole, Mr. Allen (Pro-slav., Ill.) occupied an hour in speaking against the sending of freed negroes into that State against the organic law. Adjourned.

—Both Houses have agreed to adjourn during the holidays, to meet again Monday, Jan. 5.

THE MONTHLY CHOIR AND ORGAN JOURNAL is a new periodical, of which the first two (November and December) numbers are before us. The editor is Mr. JOHN ZUNDEL, the organist and choir-leader of Plymouth Church (H. W. Beecher's), Brooklyn, a thoroughly competent teacher and composer. His design is to furnish good music, useful and entertaining and valuable reading, for all persons interested in choirs, sacred music, and the organ and melodeon—a class numerous enough, we should think, to support such a periodical. Mr. Zundel promises to give his readers, during the year, 48 pages of new music for the organ and melodeon, with a view to check the now prevailing frivolous operatic style too common in church service, and to make organ-playing what it ought to be—dignified and grand without heaviness, effective and cheerful without sentimentality. He will also give a complete new Instruction Book for the Melodeon or Harmonium, arranged upon a new plan. The Vocal department will embrace three branches, viz.: Music for Church Choirs, Music for Sunday-Schools, and Music for Social gatherings.

Chronicles of the War.

Latest News.

GEN. BURNSIDE has written a letter avowing his own exclusive responsibility for the battle of Fredericksburg, and declaring that, so far from having been compelled by the President and Gen. Halleck to move before he was ready, he actually moved sooner than they expected. He says: "For the failure of the attack I am responsible, as the extreme gallantry, courage and endurance shown by the men was never exceeded, and would have carried the points had it been possible. To the families and friends of the dead I can only offer my heartfelt sympathies, but for the wounded I can offer my earnest prayers for their comfort and final recovery. The fact that I decided to move from Warrenton on to this line, rather against the opinion of the President, Secretary of War, and yourself, and that you left the whole movement in my hands, without giving me orders, makes me the one responsible." This effectually disposes of the falsehoods of the pro-slavery press.

The President has sent the following letter to the army of the Potomac:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Dec. 22, 1862.

To the Army of the Potomac.

I have just read your Commanding General's preliminary report of the battle of Fredericksburg. Although you were not successful, the attempt was not an error, nor the failure other than an accident. The courage with which you, in an open field, maintained the contest against an entrenched foe, and the consummate skill and success with which you crossed and recrossed the river in the face of the enemy, show that you possess all the qualities of a great army, which will yet give victory to the cause of the country and of popular government. Condoling with the mourners for the dead, and sympathizing with the severely wounded, I congratulate you that the number of both is comparatively so small. I tender to you, officers and soldiers, the thanks of the nation.

(Signed) ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Our losses in the battle of Fredericksburg are reported by Gen. Burnside thus: killed, 1,152; wounded, between 6,000 and 7,000, one half of whom are receiving treatment in the hospitals; prisoners, 700.

Gen. Foster's movement in North Carolina has been a complete success. He fought four engagements—the first at South West Creek, a short distance east of Kinston; the second at Kinston, where he took 500 prisoners and 11 pieces of artillery; the third at White Hill, not far from Goldsboro, and the fourth at Goldsboro—and in each of them the enemy was badly whipped. At Goldsboro, he burned the very important railroad bridge over the Neuse River, and subsequently another one further south, at Mount Olive. He also tore up several miles of the track of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. This road, running in almost a straight line from Richmond to Wilmington, carries probably nine-tenths of the travel and freight moved between South Carolina and Georgia and Virginia. By the break at Goldsboro, the rebels will be compelled to communicate with the South by the roundabout way of Raleigh, Salisbury, Charlotte and Columbia. Another successful blow at Weldon and the little cross-road at Gaston, a few miles West, would effectually sever all railroad lines from Virginia to the South save that by way of Lynchburg and East Tennessee, a line quite too long to be of efficient service. Whether Gen. Foster remains near Goldsboro, we are not informed. It is probable, however, that he has withdrawn toward his base at Newbern.

The Army and the Negroes.

EVERYWHERE THE AMERICAN GENERAL RECEIVES HIS MOST USEFUL AND RELIABLE INFORMATION FROM THE NEGRO, *who hails his coming as the herald-angel of Freedom.*"—*Wm. H. Seward's Official Dispatch to Mr. Adams.*

"FREEDOM IN THE ABSTRACT."—A correspondent of the New York *Times* talks in the following fashion of the poor slaves who are rushing within the lines of the Union army in Mississippi:

"What shall we do with them? Along with our forces on the return, came some three hundred negroes, of all ages, sexes, color, sizes and conditions. Tramping eagerly through the deep mud, came old, paralytic women, bent with age and infirmity, who bore the pelting rain and the discomforts of the camp without complaint, their faces and souls all aglow with the thought that they were bound for the North and Freedom. Mothers waded through mud and water, carrying babies in their arms, sustained by the thought that they had at length obtained that wonderful blessing—Freedom. Barefooted children, ragged adults, young women clad in hermaphrodite suits of half petticoats and pantaloons, all came budging on, grinning over the sublime thought that they had obtained that priceless boon—Freedom.

"Freedom in the abstract is a fine thing, and will do to fight, preach, pray, suffer, starve for; but when Freedom amounts to no more than what the negroes obtain at Helena, it is a different affair. There is means simply freedom to starve, rot, die, and the sooner the better. Since I reached that place the average daily mortality among the contrabands has been from ten to twenty. Nobody takes any further interest in them than to kick them out of the way whenever they get in it, and to complain upon all occasions as a source of the most serious demoralization to the army. Their condition is not a single remove above that of brutes—a more degraded, helpless class of people exists nowhere on the Continent. If our philanthropy is to end in taking them away from their masters, we had better, in mercy to them, decree that as fast as emancipated they shall be shot."

TOLERATION OF NEGRO-HUNTING.—When will the law of Congress and the President's proclamation relative to negroes within the lines of our army be enforced? From all quarters we are hearing of the grossest disregard of the law by military officers. The camps of the American army must cease to be hunting-grounds for fugitive slaves. That such things should any longer continue to exist is a disgrace to the country, a disgrace to humanity; and they continue to exist because military officers set their wills born of negro hatred above the law of the United States. It is the duty of the President to see that the laws be executed; and he can at once see that the law against negro-hunting within the lines of the army be enforced. The summary dismissal of one officer for the violation of the law, would at once put an end to this shameful business.—*Commonwealth.*

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.

Col. John McHenry, of the 17th Kentucky Volunteers, has been dismissed from the service for issuing an order returning slaves to masters from his camp, in violation of additional article of war.

THE FIFTEENTH ESTATE.—*Fifteen miles below Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 7.*—I am writing from one of the old mansions of Virginia, whose foundations were laid in the Seventeenth Century, but to whose superstructure additions have been made all along to the Nineteenth. It is a fine old place, commanding a beautiful view of the river and valley for many miles to the east and west. Long lines of negro huts stretch to the north and south, but not a single inhabitant is to be found therein save a few poor old horses and cows, which have been placed there for protection from camp marauders. Many years ago its proprietor boasted of his thousands of acres, and his 200 or 300 negroes. Now, one of his descendants cultivates but a few hundred acres, and owns not a single slave. The only negro on the plantation is an active, intelligent fellow, who purchased his own freedom several years ago, and now receives for his labor $15 per month and his board. The plantation is one of the small remnants of that immense Fitzhugh estate, which, according to Bishop Meade, originally contained 54,000 acres. It has been cultivated for more than two centuries. Fields have been cultivated until they were worn out, then abandoned until dense pine forests covered them, then were again cleared and prepared for cultivation, and so alternating through the decades from timber to tobacco and wheat. Here, too, generation after generation, and crop after crop of negroes have been raised and sold, but instead of adding to the wealth of that proud old family, have at last almost impoverished it. The Fitzhugh family, as all know who are familiar with the history of Virginia, was one of the most aristocratic in Virginia. William Fitzhugh, the founder on this side of the Atlantic, lived really like one of the old English Barons, and during his life wielded quite as much power, having been a man of talent, culture, and force of character, as well as possessed of great wealth. But very little of his vast estate now remains in his family, although branches of it are found all along the valley, from Fredericksburg to the Chesapeake.

Last Spring, just before the advance of Gen. McDowell, fifty-four negroes occupied the huts I have just spoken of. Five of them were hastily packed in a big Virginia waggon, and trundled off in the direction of Richmond. The rest, more fortunate, anticipating the movement, escaped to our lines, and are now scattered through the North. The old mansion and the empty negro huts now look cold and desolate. And yet there is something attractive about it, and as the snow falls rapidly and the cold northeast wind shrieks and howls around the corners, and this log fire of pine knots crackles and snaps on the wide fireplace, I much prefer my seat before it than the most comfortable one under the most prominent General's tent—warmed and made pleasant as they are by many Yankee contrivances. My host, too, is a very pleasant, agreeable gentleman, and talks about his losses without cursing and swearing at the universe in general and the Yankee army in particular. As yet the present army now slowly approaching the river has disturbed him but little. His fences are in good condition, his stacks of wheat untouched, his cattle quietly eating corn-husks in the fields. But before the close of another week, as if a flock of Egyptian locusts had settled upon his plantation, he expects all to disappear. Patiently and philosophically he awaits the coming of the marauders. He has seen what has taken place in the vicinity of Fredericksburg, and has prepared his mind to witness a similar desolation of his own plantation.—*Tribune.*

A BORDER STATE APPEAL.—The Louisville *Journal* appeals to the colored preachers of Kentucky to tell their flocks that the President's proclamation does not apply to them. *The Journal* says:

"It is a well-known fact that an impression prevails to a considerable extent among the slave population in Kentucky that they will be free on the first of January, under the proclamation of the President of the United States. If this delusion is not speedily corrected, it will be likely to lead to disastrous results to the negroes, and we know of no better means for correcting the delusion than through the pulpits of the African churches. We, therefore, for the sake of the welfare of the negroes, suggest to their preachers through the State to earnestly, zealously and energetically set themselves to work to correct the evil at once. Kentucky is not in any way included in the President's proclamation. That proclamation, which expressly refers to States or portions of States that are engaged in armed rebellion."

NEGRO HANGED AT HOLLY SPRINGS.—When Col. Lee occupied Holly Springs, Miss., some weeks since, with cavalry, a colored man gave him information which was of much importance, and led, among other things, to the capture of a rebel officer. When Col. Lee retired the negro was left behind, and was immediately hanged by a mob of citizens and rebel soldiers.

New Publications.

THE RESULTS OF EMANCIPATION. By AUGUSTUS COCHIN, Ex-Maire and Municipal Councillor of Paris. Work crowned by the Institute of France. Translated by MARY L. BOOTH, Translator of Count de Gasparin's works on America, etc. Boston: Walker, Wise & Co. 1862.

The author of this work is an eminent citizen and publicist of France, honorably identified with the cause of liberty in that country and throughout the world, and qualified by large experience as a landowner and proprietor of iron forges to collect and weigh evidence upon questions relating to the organization of labor and capital, and to the physical, social and moral condition of the laboring classes. The work is not the embodiment of theories springing up in the mind of an enthusiast, but, as the translator well says, "an array of clear and well-digested facts, presented in a calm, unprejudiced manner, and drawn from official sources, to which few men would have had so full access, and which few men would have studied so diligently and minutely. Indeed, the published and unpublished papers and records of every ministry of Europe have been placed at his disposal during the preparation of his work; in England he has had all the unpublished documents of the Board of Trade, and the sagacious Nassau Senior, one of the wisest counsellors of the British government, has rendered him constant aid. The reliability of his facts and conclusions cannot, therefore, be contested, and in this respect the work is of the utmost value to the American public, as there is no work extant in the English language which sums up so fully and incontestably the practical results of emancipation."

If the American people were not rather Atheists than Christians, they would not need an elaborate array of well-authenticated historic examples to convince them that it is safe to strike off the chains from the limbs of slaves, and dangerous only to keep them in bondage. But for the moral blindness which the practice of oppression always induces, they would *know*, instinctively, that it is safe to do complete and instant justice to the oppressed, and that calamity and disaster are sure to follow a persistence in the crime of slavery. Thousands of men and women, intelligent on most other subjects, talk upon this with an incoherency worthy of Bedlam. In their minds emancipation as applied to slaves is synonomous with insurrection, blood and horror. We presume that the President of the United States has hesitated to decree the abolition of slavery more on account of unfounded apprehensions as to the consequences of the measure than from any doubt of his power, as the head of the Army and Navy, to make such a decree. It is a pity that he and so many others in authority are so wanting in faith as to the natural operations of the law of Justice, and at the same time so ignorant of the facts which incontestably show that emancipation is always safe in itself and beneficent in its effects alike upon masters and slaves. For a long time the Abolitionists have earnestly labored to enlighten their fellow-citizens upon this subject, but their voices have been drowned by the clamors of pro-slavery priests, politicians and editors. Now, at length, the truth which the prejudices of the people forbade them to receive from us is beginning to find utterance in high quarters, and from the lips and pens of men who command the ear of the world. For this we are profoundly thankful to God, and we accept the fact as a sign that the day of the world's redemption from slavery is drawing nigh.

This work of M. Cochin appears in this country at a fortunate time, and we indulge the hope that it will arrest the attention of many of those who need to have their faith in justice and freedom fortified by the facts it so lucidly presents.

As the French language is to us an "unknown tongue," we are hardly qualified to testify as to the fidelity of the translation; but we can at least affirm that Miss Booth has given us the book of M. Cochin in clear and vigorous English.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY for January, 1863—the first number of volume XI.—is more than commonly attractive. We give the list of articles as follows: Happiest Days, by Gail Hamilton; The Promise of the Dawn—a Christmas Story, by the author of "Life in the Iron Mills"; In the Half-Way House, a poem, by James Russell Lowell; Mr. Buckle as a Thinker, by D. A. Wasson; Recollections of a Gifted Woman, by Nathaniel Hawthorne; Mr. Axtell—conclusion; The Legend of Rabbi Ben Levi, by H. W. Longfellow; My Friend the Watch, by Geo. Wm. Curtis; Benjamin Banneker, the Negro Astronomer, by M. D. Conway; The Sleeping Sentinel, by James T. Fields; Iron-clad Ships and Heavy Ordnance, by Alexander L. Holly; Andrew Rykman's Prayer, by John G. Whittier; The Strathsays, by Harriet E. Prescott; The Fine Lady, by Julia Ward Howe; A Reply—addressed to the Women of England, by Mrs. H. B. Stowe; The Soldier's Rally, by T. Jefferson Cutler; Overtures from Richmond, by Prof. Francis J. Child; Reviews and Literary Notices.

Turning, first of all, to Mrs. Stowe's "Reply to the Women of England," we find it a model of sound argument, pathetic remonstrance and Christian rebuke. It ought to be circulated in every part of Great Britain, where it cannot fail to bring a blush upon the cheeks of women of the highest social rank, who, having only a few years ago besought their sisters in America to exert their influence in favor of the abolition of slavery, are now lending their sympathies to the avowed champions of the system which they then pronounced the disgrace of the Christian world. We must give extracts from this "Reply" hereafter.

We regard it as a hopeful sign of the times, that *The Atlantic*, in spite of all obstacles, is constantly gaining in circulation and influence. It not only takes a high literary rank, but is on the side of Liberty and Right in the great struggle with slavery and rebellion. Boston: Ticknor and Fields.

THE PROGRESSIVE ANNUAL for 1863 (A. J. Davis & Co., 274 Canal street) comprises "an Almanac, a Spiritualistic Register and a General Calendar of Reform"; also articles on various subjects by A. J. Davis, Sara E. Payson, Mary F. Davis, C. M. Plumb, and others. The list of writers, speakers and workers in the different fields of human progress, which has evidently been compiled with diligence and impartiality, will be found very convenient for reference. It also contains a list of all the Female Physicians in the country as far as ascertained.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.—We embrace the opportunity afforded by the beginning of a new volume of this work to repeat our commendation of it as among the very best of American periodicals. True, the editor sometimes dips into controversies upon theological and ecclesiastical questions in a very one-sided way; but his selections from current literature are for the most part so admirable that we have not the heart to complain of him on that account. Moreover, we confess that we always like to read the very articles which seem to give the work a flavor of religious partisanship. If we could persuade one young man to give up his cigar for a single year, and take instead *The Living Age*, we should feel that we had not lived in vain.

REJOICING.—A meeting to congratulate the slave on his emancipation is to be held at the Bridge Street Methodist Church, Brooklyn, on Friday evening, Jan. 2d. Among the speakers are THEODORE TILTON and WILLIAM WELLS BROWN.

THE TWENTY-NINTH

NATIONAL ANTI-SLAVERY SUBSCRIPTION ANNIVERSARY.

IN view of the colossal magnitude of the Southern rebellion, on the one hand, and of the corresponding efforts for its suppression by the American government, on the other, the Managers of the NATIONAL ANTI SLAVERY SUBSCRIPTION ANNIVERSARY have deemed it expedient to defer their ANNUAL APPEAL to this late period—not knowing what events might occur, in the meantime, to render a modification or suspension of their established plan of action desirable, and wishing to be guided by the highest wisdom in such a momentous crisis.

Reverently recognizing in this awful visitation the hand of God in righteous judgment for our great national transgression, and trusting it may mercifully end in the total extinction of chattel slavery throughout the land; believing that the Proclamation of President Lincoln, emancipating forever all slaves held in States found in rebellion on the first day of January, 1863, will, if energetically and