

FROM WASHINGTON

The Finance Committee of the Senate have had two long sessions on the Treasury Note bill, and the legal tender clause meets with great opposition. A majority of the Committee are opposed to it, but still it is believed that there is a majority in the Senate favorable to the measure as it came from the House, excepting that clause which was stricken out, for the payment of the interest on the bonds in coin. The House will yield this point.

The rebel government have sent word to Hamilton Fish and Bishop Ames that they will not be admitted into the Confederate States to discharge any duties. It must be admitted, considering the not very amicable relations between the authorities at Richmond and Washington, that the appointment of the Embassy to visit Southern prisoners, &c., was decidedly cool.

In consequence of the alleged corruption which have been exposed by the Committee of Congress, in the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments in New York and Philadelphia, the Secretary of War has determined that hereafter contracts will be made, but everything will be advertised and awarded to the lowest bidder. The Secretary of War is determined to give this matter a fair trial. It is stated to-day that twenty-five thousand coats made in Philadelphia and New York for the army have just been condemned.

Philadelphia, Feb. 11

The Baltimore Clipper publishes an extract stating that Roanoke is captured, after three days' fighting. Two rebel gunboats were captured and the rest were scattered. The people of Norfolk and Portsmouth are panic-stricken. The news is confirmed by passengers by the Fortress Monroe boat.

Cairo, Feb. 11

A detachment of cavalry 250 strong had an engagement with some rebels on Sunday, five miles east of Fort Henry. Five rebels were killed and thirty prisoners and thirty horses captured. One federal was wounded.

A detachment of the 32nd Illinois destroyed a portion of the bridge on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad on Saturday evening. The rebel camp at the point had been previously evacuated.

We call the attention of the Government to the following gross outrage, by an officer of the United States army:

Captain Carry of the United States army, with a party of ten armed men, came across the Canadian frontier into the County of Huntingdon, from Malone, N. Y., in the middle of the night, broke into the dwelling house near Dundee, and took therefrom a French Canadian named D'Aout, and carried him across the lines to Malone, where he was imprisoned as a deserter from a Federal regiment stationed at the County of Orleans. The Canadian Government has since allowed D'Aout his discharge, and compensation has been privately made to the owner of the house for the damage done to it. But no reparation has been made for the violation of the British territory; nor has any investigation or capture of a British subject been publicly disavowed and atoned for by the Federal Government.

The New York World is not pleased with the ship-plaster scheme of finance adopted by the House of Representatives, and confesses that it has few hopes of the success of a war based on Assignate. It says:—

The country may stand the treasury note system for two or three months; but its adoption concurs with other reasons in making it perfectly certain that the war approaches its termination. Congress virtually stakes everything on the result of the battles to be fought in the spring campaign. If we fight and conquer, victory will give buoyancy to the public credit. We shall be able to retrace our steps, and return to a constitutional money and sound financial principles with comparative ease. But if the spring campaign miscarries (which Heaven avert!) the financial scheme about to be adopted is a millstone tied to the neck of the Union. It will sink it forever. If the war does not terminate favorably by successful fighting, it will end in disaster and consequences of financial prostration. We cannot go on another year on the new system. We are spending at the rate of fifty millions a month. The hundred millions of Treasury notes about to be authorized will not pay the already overdue floating debt. To think that we can go on repeating the same every two months and get successful to the year's end is sheer madness. Such a scheme may help us through the spring months, but if the rebellion is not put down by the first of June the recognition of the Confederate States by our government will have become a mere question of time.

As the new financial system had been adopted as an administration measure, the country will justly hold the administration answerable for all that is involved in it, and consequently for the successful termination of the war within the spring months. If the administration accomplishes this, all may yet be well; if not the Union is gone forever.

ORANGE RESOLUTIONS.—The following resolutions were adopted at the late meeting of the County Orange Lodge of Frontenac:—

Moved by Bro. Wm. Robinson, W.M. of L. O. N. 6, seconded by Bro. G. S. White, County Chaplain:—

Resolved.—1st. That the policy of the Canadian Government in employing agents to proceed to the South and to France for the purpose of inducing exclusively Roman Catholics and aliens to emigrate to this country, cannot be too highly censured and condemned.

2nd. That it is to be hoped that the unhappy struggle going on in the neighboring republic will not blind the eyes of our Legislatures to the danger and folly of countenancing such a scheme as that now being carried out by the present Canadian Government.

3rd. That we hereby call on the members of Parliament to take such steps as they think necessary to have the appointment of the persons referred to rescinded without delay.

4th. That copies of the above be forwarded to each of the Grand Lodges of Canada, N. A. to our South and county representatives, and each Orange member of Parliament, and to the Kingston Daily News and the Toronto British Herald.

A writer in an English magazine declares that France now is far riper for reformation in religion than Germany was when the Monk of Wittenburg plumed his thesis on indulgences. "A single man," says the magazine, "would probably not do now a work which needs to go farther than his, which must be more reconstructive than destructive. But a single earnest bishop and a half-dozen earnest priests might, I believe, under God's Spirit, entirely change the face of Christianity in France, and give a noble nation that which, most of all it wants, a truly Christian, but at the same time truly national church."

The following is an extract of a letter from a soldier in the Federal Army, serving in Virginia, address to the gentleman in this city last week:—

"I am delighted to perceive in the paper received from you this day, that the citizens of Montreal contemplate the erection of a statue of Her Majesty Queen Victoria—(God bless her). You will find enclosed in this letter two dollars, in gold—none of your Treasury Notes—which you will please hand over to the committee entrusted with the carrying out of this truly noble undertaking, as the humble contribution of a British subject. Although I am on the 'Yankee side of Jordan,' you may rely upon it, Bill, that I am still as true to the old flag as any living white man. You are aware that I never enlisted in the American service to fight against my own blood or against any of England's sons; and if a war was to break out between England and the United States, I should be glad to see the difficulties, I shall at once demand my discharge, even though I should be threatened with Fort Lafayette—aye, even though the very gallows were staring me in the face. And I am only one out of many hundreds here who would make similar choice.

Yours, F. H.

"PATCHED GARMENTS.—To the mind of an observer there is a great deal in the patched and mended garments of a poor man. They speak whole volumes of patient poverty. They tell of the unpepined and industrious wife, and of her long hours spent with the weary needle, of the striving endurance and her who, with humble pride would turn the best side outward. Never scorn the patched coat of a poor labourer—for that labourer, may be, has one at home that loves him; and that is more, alas! than many a rich man has.

COUNTY OF LANARK.—Church of England, 7,908; Church of Rome, 7,011. Presbyterians—Established Church of Scotland, 6,676; Free Church of Scotland, 3,814; United Presbyterians, 393. Methodists—Wesleyan, 3,694; Episcopal, 227; New Connection, 201; other Methodists, 0. Baptists, 880; Lutherans, 0; Congregational, 325; Unitarians, 11; Bible Christians, 55; Christians, 0; Second Adventists, 3; Protestants, 0; Disciples, 0; Jews, 0; Menonites and Tunkers, 0; Universalists, 101; Unitarians, 4; Mormons, 1; no religion, 46; no creed given, 8; other creeds not classed, 286. Total population, 31,639. Natives of England and Wales, 3,425; Scotland, 4,425; Ireland, 4,909; Natives of Canada, not of French origin, 21,831; of French origin, 389. Natives of the United States, 344; Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, 24; New Brunswick, 5; Newfoundland, 2; West Indies, 5; East Indies, 3; Prussia, German States, and Holland, 5; France, 4; Italy and Greece, 4; Spain and Portugal, 1; Sweden and Norway, 0; Russia and Poland, 1; Switzerland, 8; Guernsey, Jersey, and other British Islands, 1; all other places, 8. Colored persons, 8; Indians, 25. At sea, 6. Not known, 36.

THE POSITION OF THE WAR.

The States of the North are beginning to reap a slight reward for the exertions they have been making for the past ten months. The rebel loss is not confined merely to the killed and wounded. Neither is the Federal gain confined to the winning of a couple of isolated contests. Both the Fort Henry and Mill Springs defeats, deprive the South of important strategic positions, and open a way for the North to penetrate to the very heart of the rebel territory.

With regard to the capture of Fort Henry, possession of the Tennessee river has enabled General Grant to pass between the army of General Buckner in Central Kentucky on the one hand, and of General Polk in Western Kentucky on the other. Not only has he divided them but he has got south of both. A short distance east of Fort Donelson on the Cumberland river. It is a small work, and there is every reason to believe must fall before the body of men sent to attack it. The Cumberland is navigable for large boats as high as Nashville, directly in the rear of Buckner's army. If the city is seriously threatened, it would appear certain that the rebel General will be compelled to retreat, as the source from whence he draws his supplies would be in the possession of the enemy. The command of the two rivers which the Federals now have, gives them an immense advantage. It enables them to keep open their communications, and to move forward large bodies of troops much more rapidly than by marches overland.

General Thomas, it is said is about to follow up the victory gained at Mill Springs, by penetrating into Eastern Tennessee. The divisions of General Isham and Sigel are rapidly advancing upon the Confederate General Price, who occupies the old battle ground of Springfield, in the south western portion of the State.

The town of Romney, in north-eastern Virginia, has been evacuated by General Jackson, on the statement of the Federal General Lander, who, it is said has been reinforced. The rebels have retreated to Winchester.

General Burnside appears to be making an attack on Roanoke Island, in Pamlico Sound. The force he has with him is so great, and there is so ready reinforcement, that there is little doubt of ultimate success. There are rumours of a conflict on the Savannah River, and it is not improbable that a portion of the force under Sherman's command is endeavouring to force its way up to the city.

The work of crushing the rebellion appears at length to have commenced in earnest. The greatest difficulties in the way of preparing for a speedy settlement of the question by the arbitration of the sword—Globe.

General McClellan has been virtually superseded. He is not definitely admitted that he has been relieved of the general management of the army; but it is evident that he will henceforth confine himself to the command of the department of the Potomac; and that the new Secretary of War, Mr. Cameron, will have the direction of military affairs. The N. Y. Evening Post looks at the event, as "a change in our war policy." The Tribune in its indiscriminate belligerency inquires why there should be any other Commander-in-Chief than the President. Other papers say that General McClellan is desirous of active service; and that in order to take the field in person he has submitted to the change which is reported to have taken place. Whichever of these statements is the correct one, there can be no doubt that a change has occurred. It is not at all improbable that it has been voluntary on the part of the General; for a section of the press has been unceasing in its attacks upon him, for the past few months. These attacks were probably not deserved; for no man could be more assiduous in his efforts to put the army in a state of efficiency than General McClellan has been since the memorable rout at Bull Run. It is to be seen how two lawyers will conduct the war.—Leader.

Nine of the largest and most influential counties in the Province have now taken action against new Grand Trunk subsidies, viz:—Waterloo, Hastings, York, Peel, Middlesex, Leeds, Grenville, Huron, and Bruce.

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