

Letter from Washington.

WASHINGTON, December 20.—The proceedings in the House of Representatives on yesterday, and in the Senate to-day, have damaged the Radicals prodigiously.

Thad. Stevens, their leader and dictator, delivered on Monday a speech so detestable in sentiment, hideous in temper, and atrocious in doctrine, that some of his most obedient followers fled from his support when Mokanna unveiled his horrid visage.

The prevailing sentiment among the Radicals now is, that they must get rid by some means of this wolfish old man of the sea, or that he will throttle them.

At the hotels, in the reading rooms, and wherever the Republican members of Congress congregated, after the adjournment of the House, the violence and fury of the old savage was deprecated.

So strong was this manifestation of disapproval, that even that thoroughly lubricated political weathercock, Forney, veered suddenly round to the point on the compass marked "Conservative," and declares in the Chronicle that no party can support the opinions of Stevens and live.

This declaration is valuable as showing the present temper of the Radicals, for had the speech of Stevens met their approval, the Chronicle would have praised it to the skies.

Raymond, the editor of the New York Times, who is a member of the House, was exceedingly anxious to lock horns with Stevens, and sprung to his feet when the latter concluded his speech; but the politic Colfax, who is very cunning, failed to recognize him, and thus prevented an exhibition of the fact that there was discord in the ranks of his party.

The message of the President and the report of General Grant were read in the Senate this morning, and their bold, clear and emphatic commendation of the present spirit, temper and loyalty of the people of the South, carried dismay into the ranks of Sumner's cohorts.

The President of the United States and the popular and victorious Lieutenant-General both playing away at the same time into the black, piratical craft of Stevens and Sumner, made it reel and quiver. They bore the reading of the President's message with commendable fortitude; but when the report of General Grant was read, applauding the present spirit of the Southern people, and "corking up" the Freedman's Bureau almost as tightly as he did the hero of 10,000 spoons, it was diverting in the extreme to watch the countenances of Sumner, Wade, Foster, &c.

The report of General Grant plants him firmly by the side of the President, and the utter faculty of such creatures as Stevens and Sumner contending successfully with the official influence of the President, and the colossal popularity of Grant, filled them with impotent rage.

It was when Grant's report had been read that Sumner sprang up, white with anger, and denounced the message of the President as a "white-washing message." For this offensive language he was at once rebuked by two Radical Senators.

The galleries of the Senate were filled by a vast audience when the message of the President and the report of General Grant were read, and those documents were received with the most undisguised evidences of popular approval.

A few Radical Senators then called for the reading of the report of Carl Schurz, who had also reported to the President his views of the condition of things at the South.

As this person is notorious as the "Southern correspondent" of one or more Radical papers, the absurdity of attempting to break the force of the reports of the President and General Grant by anything which this German adventurer might say was absolutely ludicrous, and after listening to a few sentences of his "report," even the Radical Senators were glad enough to get rid of it by a motion to print.

There are at this time but few Congressmen elected from the South in Washington, and they are now much more hopeful of an early admission to their seats.

COLONEL JOHN W. FORNEY ON THE ADMISSION OF THE SOUTHERN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—In his Washington letter to his Philadelphia paper, Col. Forney, of the Sixty-ninth Pennsylvania regiment, says:

I met, this morning, a gallant Southerner from Alabama, who run for Congress in one of the mountain districts, and was defeated by a rebel General, whose sole claim to the votes was the fact that he had lost a limb in the rebel service, and also because the people knew that he never would take this same oath.

MISSISSIPPI MANUFACTURES.—An Aberdeen (Mississippi) paper reports the arrival there of a train of over twenty wagons loaded with machinery for an establishment for the manufacture of cotton goods.

PRENTICE'S OPINION OF A. H. STEPHENS.—The Louisville Journal, which opposed secession from the beginning, and was a thoroughly Union paper throughout the war, has the magnanimity to speak as follows concerning the ex-Vice-President of the Confederate States:

"Mr. Stephens is one of nature's noblemen; and from our heart of hearts we believe that every throb of his soul is in favor of the Union, of his country, and of his whole country."

"Mr. Stephens ought to be in the Senate of the United States. Let Congress repeal the test oath and receive into its body again with acclamations the great and good Georgian, one of the noblest Romans of this or any other country. Oh, we do abhor that narrow spirit and that short-sighted policy that keep from the councils of the Republic such a man as Alexander H. Stephens."

CHANGING THE NATIONAL MOTTO.—In the palmy days of the Republic, the motto upon our coin was expressive of the nature of our Government—"E Pluribus Unum" (one from many)—but we learn that a "higher law" innovation is contemplated, and that the Director of the Mint has forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury, for his approval, specimens of new coin, bearing the motto, "in God we Trust." Considering the character of those who control the Government at this time, this is not only hypocrisy, but sacrilege.

The New York Times says: "It reminds one unpleasantly of the 'Deigratia' of the divine-right schools of Europe. Let us try to carry our religion—such as it is—in our hearts, and not in our pockets."

[Newark (New Jersey) Journal.]

It is stated that the building in New York, which was formerly Rev. Dr. Osgood's church, and more recently the Broadway Athenaeum, has been leased by John Brougham and others, and is to be altered into a theatre.

Proceedings of Council.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, COLUMBIA, December 26, 1865. Present: His Honor the Mayor; Aldermen Bates, Fisher, Glaze, Harris, Hope, Campbell, Geiger, Stork, Waring, Wells. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The subject of the market was again presented for the consideration of the Council, and discussion invited. Plan and specifications of Kay & Hewetson were re-submitted. Alderman Bates presented a plan, exhibited by him at a former meeting of Council, with the following recommendation and endorsement of named citizens annexed:

To the Hon. Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Columbia. We, the undersigned, citizens and tax-payers of the city of Columbia, S. C., have examined the plan of a market, city hall, council chamber, mayor's office, and guard house, proposed by Orlando Z. Bates, to be erected in the rear of the old market, as specified in his plan.

We cordially agree with the plan proposed, as we think it provides for all the convenience of this community, as well as the surrounding country. Also, the construction of these buildings will cost decidedly less than any others with the same advantages, which will last and be an ornament to the city for all time to come.

- We, therefore, respectfully recommend to your honorable body the adoption of the plan proposed. J. G. Gibbs, Mayor, S. E. Capers, J. S. G. Mayrant, W. R. Cathcart, D. B. DeSaussure, S. W. Capers, C. H. Baldwin, Edmund Davis, R. E. Howell, S. L. DeVeaux, M. B. Green, C. O. Marshall, Jas. M. Morris, G. D. Hope, C. Volger, E. Stenhouse, E. J. Arthur, Thos. P. Walker, J. J. Goodwyn, M. Comerford, John Waties, Jonathan Dark, H. Hinrichson, John J. Rawls, Samuel Gardner, D. P. McDonald, Robert Bryce, Wm. B. Green, H. Muller, J. C. Lyons, John G. Forbes, Jno. Bauskett, R. W. Gibbs, M. D., Thos. Boyne, A. Lee, Thos. Davis, Thomas J. Rawls, R. D. Senn, J. Burnside, W. F. DeSaussure.

After continued discussion, no decision having been arrived at by the Council, the following resolution was moved and adopted by a vote of seven yeas to three noes:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to contract for the building of a new market in Assembly street, thirty-five (35) by one hundred and twenty-five (125) feet. The Mayor named on this committee Aldermen Stork, Harris, Glaze. On motion, the Mayor was added to the committee.

The following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved, That the ordinance, with reference to the discharge of "fire-arms," be enforced whenever practicable, and that the police be instructed to arrest persons offending. Alderman Bates tendered his resignation. On motion, it was laid on the table for the present. On motion, Council adjourned. F. H. ELMORE, City Clerk.

THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE.—It is understood by the Washington news gatherers that the President's house was cleared of articles of furniture to an extraordinary degree when Mrs. Lincoln left it. The subject has been kept from the public as much as possible, as it was a matter of scandal disgraceful to the country.

OLD LINE WHIGS.—A Richmond paper, referring to the Virginia Legislature, says that it is a curious fact that in the House of Delegates, of ninety-six members, with a single exception—that of the delegate from Rockbridge County—every member is an "Old Line Whig," while in the Senate, the exceptions are but three or four, the remainder being all of the like party antecedents. The whole delegation elect in Congress and a very large majority of the State and local officers of every grade, were also of the same party.

When the Southern members of Congress left their seats in that body and joined the rebellion, they were traitors. Now, when they have left the rebellion, and want to take their seats, they are traitors still.

The Roman Catholic churches in Baltimore have just contributed over \$151,000 for the benefit of the poor in the South.

Columbia Wholesale Prices Current.

Table with columns for various goods like Apples, Bagging, Bales, Bacon, Butter, Bricks, Cotton, Candles, Coffee, Cheese, Corn, Flour, Hay, Hides, Lard, Lumber, Lime, Molasses, Nails, Onions, Oil, Peas, Potatoes, Rice, Specie, Salt, Soap, Sugar, Spirits, Starch, Tea, Tobacco, Vinegar, Wine, and Meats.

The New York Observer publishes a letter written more than thirty years ago by Rev. Dr. Judson, on the vanity of heathen women, in which he cites as a proof of their heathenish customs that the Karen women wore fancifully constructed bags, inclosing the hair, and suspended from the back part of the head. The origin of "waterfalls" is now explained.

Counting House Calendar for 1866. Table showing months from Jan to Dec with days of the week.

OBITUARY. Died, near the city of Columbia, S. C., on the 30th day of October, 1865, Captain JOHN FRIPP, late of Beaufort, S. C., in the seventy-eighth year of his age.

It would be unnecessary here to record his many virtues, had this venerable man been gathered to his fathers among his friends and neighbors, at his own home, where for more than three-quarters of a century he exerted influence and was known, respected and loved.

There he lived throughout a long life, and was regarded by the whole community as the most honorable and upright of men.

When he was called upon to point out the foremost characteristics of this aged citizen while living, we would answer that they were charity, courage and truth. His real worth was unknown to this community, and, therefore, he could not be fully appreciated.

Acacia Lodge No. 84, A. F. M. Lodge will be held THIS EVENING, 28th inst., at 7 o'clock, at Odd Fellows' Hall.

LOST, FROM the Commercial Bank, Columbia, a TIN BOX, containing deeds and papers, granted and deeded to Eastland, Gerding, Staples and others.

Acacia Lodge No. 84, A. F. M. A regular communication of this Lodge will be held THIS EVENING, 28th inst., at 7 o'clock, at Odd Fellows' Hall.

C. S. Jenkins, ASSEMBLY STREET, NEXT MARKET STREET. KEEPS constantly on hand a full stock of Family GROCERIES and PROVISIONS.

St. Mary's College. THE exercises of this institution will be resumed on the 8th of January next.

MONTICELLO FEMALE INSTITUTE, NEAR ALSTON, S. C. THE exercises of this institution will be resumed the second WEDNESDAY in January next.

TO RENT, A PLANTATION on Wateree River, in a Richland District, containing 600 acres of cleared land—one-fourth in upland and balance in river bottom.