"If any man attempts to haul down the American Flag, shoot him on the spot!"
—*Gen. Dix.*


# The Oregon Argus.

W. L. Adams, . . . Editor.

OREGON CITY:

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1863.


## Knights of the Golden Circle.

It is now ascertained beyond a doubt that the secret political Order called the "Knights of the Golden Circle," first started in the Cotton States as a disunion league, is extensively organized in all the Northern States. This order of Union-hating political Jesuits is in close communion with the leaders of the rebellion, and trying to accomplish its mission in the North by creating dissensions and divisions among Union men, producing distrust in the Administration, discouraging enlistments, inducing desertions from the army, and using editors who can be bought to help carry out their nefarious schemes, by professing great attachment to the Union and still helping the rebels all they can, by publishing the meanest falsehoods about leading men who are heartily engaged in trying to crush the rebellion, and evincing the most virulent opposition to every effective blow aimed at the head of the monster which is trying to throttle the Government. These knights of the Golden Circle are trying to carry the great North-West into the Southern Confederacy, and are no doubt now busily engaged in laying their plans for a Pacific Confederacy. The newspapers in Indiana and Illinois have a good deal to say about the operations of this traitorous league. One John O. Brown, of Shelby county, Indiana, a private in the Third Indiana Cavalry, has been tried by a court-martial for introducing the secret society among the soldiers in camp, the object being to encourage desertion and destroy the army.—The trial lasted several days, and produced great excitement, Brown pleading guilty to nearly all the charges, and pleading in extenuation that he was cajoled into the conspiracy by two leading democratic politicians of Indianapolis, giving their names. He admitted his guilt and the treasonable designs of the order. All the members of it are sworn by a solemn oath to give their help to the scheme for separating the North-West from the Union, and also to encourage and procure desertions from the army whenever they have opportunity.—These men are all bound to support the democratic party, and are under the control of democratic leaders, who exercise a general supervision over the labors of the order. The crime of which this Brown acknowledges himself guilty is punishable with death, and he will no doubt be executed, notwithstanding the leading democrats around Indianapolis are trying to shield him from merited punishment. The 105th Illinois Regiment, which lately mutinied at Holly Springs, and lost very many by desertion, was operated on by this order. The Indianapolis Journal, in speaking of some of the workings of the infamous order, says:

"In this city it is known that there are a number of members in the sixty-third Regiment, and in some companies of the Third and Fifth Cavalry. The Twenty-fifth Battery, which came here long ganged with 140 men, was so completely broken up by desertions procured by the Order, that the few who were left, about thirty, were transferred to another battery. And of these thirty all but one deserted when ordered to the field. One now, a member of the Order, deserted with three revolvers; another took a couple of stand of arms; and nearly all took some portion of the military of their arms or accoutrements. Such operations as these would speedily win any army. In the camps here they have been shocked, and the active men amazed. This Order, too, I understand, in the Legislature intend to allow no investigation, by a strict party vote."

How extensively this order has been organized in this State, and how much money they are spending to carry out their scheme for separating the Pacific Coast from the parent Government, remains to be seen, but we assure our readers that this modern Know Nothing oath-bound beast of treason is among us. We have seen its tracks, and so may every man who carefully studies the secession sheets of this State, especially the one at Salem, which is always in market, and isn't jealous enough to cover up its tracks.

Intervention.—The following extract of a letter received from a highly respectable merchant in Liverpool, may (says the New York Commercial Advertiser) assist in quieting the fears of some in regard to the interference of England in our domestic quarrels:

"The subscriptions raised in your city for the distressed working people here are truly liberal, and I hope to show that there is not so much ill feeling towards England as has been represented; at least it must mitigate it very much. Mr. Seward need not be much alarmed about intervention on the part of England; there never has been much of a feeling here in favor of it, and now I doubt if there is any at all. The opinion is gaining ground that we must look to other quarters for cotton, for even if peace were made the supply from the United States will be very precarious for some time to come; hence many think that the raising of the blockade would be rather an evil than otherwise at this time, tending as it would to decrease the cultivation of the article in other places."

☞ At latest dates, Legal tenders were held in San Francisco at 62 to 65c.

## Indications.

Chancellor Tappan, President of the Michigan University, an old conservative, who has had little to do with politics, has written a letter to the President urging a more rigorous policy in crushing the rebellion and squelching treason at the North. In speaking of the consequences that will probably result from a triumph of the Northern peace democracy, and a consequent failure to subdue the rebellion, Mr. Tappan says:

"A year ago this party appeared so perfect that whatever of treason there was among us was compelled to dwell in concealment, and then courage and hope were high. Now, old party dissensions are revived, meant, as we have said, as a protest against incivility by the loyal, an expression of despair by many; but also emboldened bands of illomen to come abroad again, so that it is said Northern sympathizers with Southern rebellion are proposing terms of peace. The result of this, if not checked, will be to divide the North into two hostile parties, ending in civil war among themselves. Then will come scenes of bloodshed, anarchy, and desolation that will throw the French Revolution into the shade, until a military despotism closes the drama of horrors."

If Northern traitors should ever succeed in dividing the North so as to force the Government to disband its armies before the rebels are whipped, there may be a civil war at the North, but a military despotism there never can be. The soldiers who are now perilling their lives on the battle-field, have taken up arms to defend a pure democracy from the assaults of an oligarchy, and these soldiers have lost none of their old love for free institutions by fighting to maintain them. They will fight to maintain them on Northern soil, if need be, as well as on Southern. It is very common for Northern traitors and such organs as the "*Copperhead*" to represent that the Federal soldiers of democratic antecedents are now sympathizing with the late movements of the Northern peace democracy, which is nothing more nor less than a more captivating name for the Knights of the Golden Circle. The truth is, none of the soldiers (except Jeff Davis's soldiers) have any sympathy for the Vallandighams, Hibbens, and such as Malone and the lesser light at Salem, unless it be such soldiers as belong to the Knights of the Golden Circle who volunteered to act as spies for the rebels and to shoot our own officers during an engagement. A short campaign, fighting the treacherous and savage bushwhacking rebel bandits pretty effectually squelches peace democracy out of a soldier, if he was ever infected with it. Juan A. Logan, who formerly represented a portion of Egypt in Congress, and who was then a thorough Breckinridge and Lane democrat, has now been in the Federal army about twenty months, just long enough to be wounded once or twice and get his eyes open to the objects of the peace democrats in the North. A prominent citizen of Illinois who is now in Grant's army, in writing to the Springfield (Ill.) Journal, says of Logan:

"Gen. John A. Logan says he would like to take an occasional trip to Illinois and assist in the military there. The army generally would like to meet those traitorous democrats in our State and lecture to them from some place where a drop of cold water would be more agreeable to them than the sign of the Golden Circle."

The officers of the Illinois regiments stationed at Corinth, Mississippi, held a meeting on the 16th of January, and passed a series of resolutions condemning the conduct of Northern traitors in severe terms. The resolutions were read to all the regiments in the district, and every man voted for them with a hurrah, except two men in one regiment, who were suspected of belonging to the oath-bound Knights. We give some of those resolutions, to show the feelings of our soldiers toward their worst enemies—Northern traitors. We all feel mortified and disgusted with these hell-deserving vagabonds here, who are trying to play into the hands of the rebels; yet how much keener must be the feelings of resentment cherished by our soldiers who are beset by enemies in front and treacherous foes behind. We believe there is a day of awful reckoning coming, when Northern traitors will be made to drink the cup they are preparing to the very dregs.

Resolved, That we have watched the traitorous conduct of those members of the Legislature of the State of Illinois, who, skulking from their constituencies, have been preparing a cessation of the war, avowedly to arrange terms of peace, but really to give time for the nearly exhausted rebels to recover their strength, and plotting to divest Governor Yates of the rights and authority vested in him by our State Constitution and laws, and to them we calmly and firmly say: "Beware of the terrible retribution that is falling upon your coadjutors at the South, and that, as your crime is tenfold blacker, will swiftly smite you with tenfold horror, should you persist in your damnable deeds of treason."

Resolved, That in tendering our thanks to Gov. Yates and assuring him of our cordial support in his efforts to crush this inhuman rebellion, we are deeply and fervidly in earnest. We have left to the protection of the laws he is to enforce all that is dear to us—our wives, our children, our parents, and our homes—and should the lieutenant-traitors of the madmen who are trying to wrest from him a portion of his just authority render it necessary in his opinion for us to return and crush out treason there, we will promptly obey a proper order so to do, for we despise a sneaking traitor in the rear much more than an open rebel in front.

Resolved, That we hold in detestation and will execrate any man who in this struggle for our national life offers factious opposition to either the Federal or State authorities in their efforts or measures for the vigorous prosecution of the war for the suppression of this Godless rebellion.

Resolved, That we are opposed to all propositions for a cessation of hostilities, or a compromise, other than those propositions which the Government has constantly offered; "Return to loyalty and obedience to the laws, on a common level with other States of the Union, under the Constitution as our fathers made it."

## As Pat Predicted.

The rebel sympathizer at Salem pretends to have undergone a change as to its editor. This we have no doubt is well understood by the public. The Agent resorted to a trick at Eugene City to get Gordon nominated for Public Printer. He got his friends there to swear that he had "sold out"—had "no interest whatever in the *Salem Statesman*"—in order to remove in the minds of respectable men an insuperable objection to nominating a supposed partner with the Agent. The "sore" secesher now finds that his late leap into the arms of Jeff was made a little too soon—that he has hugged the screws on hog a little too warmly—lied a little too steeply,—in fact, overdone the thing all round.—Hence the new ruse to gull fools.

The fact is, something of the sort had to be done. Czapkay's and Jeff's organ was being sent back in large quantities. Union men everywhere were disgusted with it, and trying to stop the thing. They were beginning to see that money paid to that sheet was worse spent than if paid for powder and lead to be forwarded to Bragg to shoot Union soldiers with. The rickety thing was becoming weak in the knees.—Gordon made a passably decent paper, but the *rheumatic squirt* hadn't run it three weeks till everybody saw that the thing was going to the dogs. Czapkay's Agent is too *rampant* for a judicious rebel. He runs the thing into the ground and breaks it off. He lacks discretion, and hasn't really as much brain as Hibben. Wesley Shannon hit him exactly, when he told us that he was "a curse to any party—*nothing but a fool any way.*" He is just green enough to think that *if he scratches himself* in a collar and puts somebody else up as the figure-head of the concern, it will become popular with the secesh, and take the lead of the *Union* and the *Democrat*. The secesher who is green enough to trust it, ought to be owned by one of Jeff's niggers—and a Union man who helps support it, is perhaps unconsciously doing a very wrong thing.

The majority of the secesh, while they say "*Czapkay's Organ is now on our side,*" have no confidence in it, and will not touch it. Why should a Union man support a secesh paper that is too rotten and unprincipled to gain the confidence and support of even such democrats as old Doc Richardson?

The Agent will still run the thing. He couldn't live without it. He must have a sheet to run to, as he has a chronic incurable complaint worse than his "rheumatism"—*the lying quickstep.*

### Eloquent Response of Gen. Rosecrans.

The following letter, from Gen. Rosecrans, in response to the resolutions of the General Assembly of Ohio, was sent in by Gov. Tod:

*Headquarters Department of Cumberland,*
Murfreesboro, Feb. 3, 1863.

To the Honorable, the General Assembly of the State of Ohio: The resolution of thanks passed by your honorable body, to the Army of the Cumberland, its Commanding General and his staff, has been duly received and published to the troops of this command. On behalf of all I return you heartfelt thanks.

This is indeed a war for the maintenance of the Constitution and the laws—yea, for National existence—against those who have despised our honest friendship, thwarted our just hopes, and driven us to defend our country and our homes. By foul and wilful slanders on our motives and intentions, persistently repeated, they have arrayed against us our own fellow citizens, found to us by the triple ties of common nationality, geographical position, and commercial interest.

Let no man among us be base enough to forget this, or fool enough to trust to oligarchy of traitors to their friends, to civil liberty and human freedom. Voluntary exiles from home and friends, for the defense and safety of all, we long for the time when gentle peace shall again spread her wings over our land; but we know no such blessing is possible while the unjust and arbitrary power of the rebel leaders confronts and threatens us. Crafty as the fox, cruel as the tiger, they cried "no coercion" while preparing to strike us. Bully like they prepared to fight us because they said they could whip five to one; and now, when driven back, they whine out "no invasion," and promise us of the West permission to navigate the Mississippi, if we will be "good boys" and do as they bid us.

Whenever they have the power, they drive before them into their ranks the Southern people, and they would also drive us. Trust them not. Were they able, they would invade and destroy us without mercy. Absolutely assured of these things, *I am amazed that any one could think of "peace on any terms."* He also entertains the sentiment *it fit only to be a slave; he who utters it at this time is, moreover, a traitor to his country, who deserves the scorn and contempt of all honorable men.* When the power of the unscrupulous rebel leaders is removed, and the people are free to consider and act for their own interests, which are common with ours under this Government, there will be no great difficulty in fraternization. Between our tastes and social life there are fewer differences than between those of the people of the Northern and Southern provinces of England or Ireland.

Hoping the time may speedily come when the power of the perfidious and rebel tyrant of this rebellion, having been overthrown, a peace may be laid on the broad foundation of national unity and equal justice to all, under the Constitution and laws, I remain your fellow-citizen,

W. S. Rosecrans, Major General.

☞ Harvey's mill is opposite to my residence. Water has been let in, and part of the machinery set to running. It will be some weeks yet before the mill will be ready for grinding.

## Details of Eastern News.

New York, March 8.—A rebel mail, containing $12,000 in rebel bonds, some gold and treasury notes was captured on the Potomac on Friday, March 6.

The World's Port Royal correspondent states that the Montauk, when returning from destroying the Nashville, ran over a torpedo which exploded, lifting the vessel two feet, but not injuring her except by a slight disarrangement of her machinery.

New York, March 9.—Sterling exchange quiet at 172½ a 173¾; gold firmer, but still unsettled, opening at 55½ and closing at 58.

Washington, March 9.—Information has been received from Hilton Head correspondence, dated March 1st, stating that the pirate Nashville endeavored during a fog to run past the blockaders, but got aground. Commander Worden discovering her, ran up within 1200 yards, with the Montauk. Fort McAllister opened a ferocious fire, but Worden took no notice, leaving the wooden gunboats to reply to that. Four shell bursted in the Nashville, setting her on fire, and one went through her side into the powder magazine, which blew her up with a great explosion. None of our vessels were harmed. The Montauk and Patapsco, iron clads, have been sent on an expedition to test their fighting qualities, in Ossibaw Sound, together with the Ericsson with mortar-boats in tow. An attempt will be made to finish the rebel ram Fingal; it is not thought that Fort McAllister will make much resistance.

A refugee from Richmond, says that several thousand troops have been sent to reinforce Price on the Blackwater, and also, that twenty-five thousand troops from the South-west, passed through Richmond within a few weeks.

Fortress Monroe, March 8.—Richmond dispatches of the 7th says, the gunboat Indianola captured from Yankees, was blown up, last Tuesday, 30th, by the rebels; her guns fell into the hands of the federals.—The Queen of the West left in such a hurry that she left a part of her crew on shore. Later dispatches state that the Indianola was not destroyed, and they are endeavoring to raise her.

The federal gunboats are making great destruction on Lake Providence. An attack was really expected on Fort Hudson, by Banks's forces.

Washington, March 9.—The Richmond Examiner of the 5th, has been received at the headquarters of the army. It contains the following:

Mobile, March 5.—The Jackson Mississippian says the destruction of the Indianola was a most unnecessary affair. A talented monitor which recently passed the batteries at Vicksburg, proved to be a failure, with sundry failures, to create a deception. She passed Vicksburg on Tuesday night, March 3, and the officers of the Indianola believing her to be a talented gunboat, blew her up, the guns falling into the hands of the federals.

Philadelphia, March 9.—The following is from the Richmond papers of the 7:—

Fort Hudson, via Nashville, March 6. Intelligence of the greatest importance has been received from the front,—the preparations making by Banks' army point irresistibly to quickly advance to northern points. The steps of war Mississippi and the gunboat Essex are now anchored at Baton Rouge. Banks' force is fully 30,000 strong. It is the opinion of military men that this point will be attacked in a few days.

Cairo, March 8.—We have advices from the fleet before Vicksburg to Tuesday afternoon, March 3d. Everything was working well. All the canals are not thought to be successful; dredging machines are working from the canal opposite Vicksburg—once the gunboats will be able to pass through with alacrity. One gunboat from Yazoo pass had already reached Yazoo city. There is no doubt of our ability to get forces into the rear of Vicksburg, and thus cut off the rebel communications with Jackson and Lake Providence. The health of the troops was improving.—The canal was nearly ready for use. As soon as the trees, stumps and other obstructions are removed, the water will be let in.

New York, March 9.—The steamer Columbus, from New Orleans, Feb. 27, via Havana, March 24, has arrived. Three companies of the 42d Mass., the crew of the Harriet Lane, and two hundred and seventy of the 8th Regulars, captured by the rebels, have been exchanged by the rebels and arrived at New Orleans; also 20 prisoners taken from the Queen of the West. Havana advices are unimportant.

Franklin, Tenn., March 8.—A large force of infantry, artillery and cavalry moved this morning against the enemy's position at Spring Mill, near Columbia, with the intention of routing them. Should they make a stand, there will probably be a heavy engagement.

Chicago, March 10.—The New Orleans Era, of Feb. 25, publishes the following: "We learn on good authority that the establishment at Clinton, La., for the manufacture of arms, ammunition, &c., was totally destroyed by fire two weeks since.—The loss to the rebels is particularly severe at this time, as the troops in that section have been very scantily supplied, their officers depending on the capacity of their works at Clinton to furnish them. The difficulties alluded to by the Confederate Secretary of War have been greatly increased by this disaster. It is reported that the Harriet Lane can never be of any use to the rebels. They have no machine shops in Texas at which she can be repaired. Her port shaft was out 6 inches out of line, and 2 flanges of the port wheel were burst. She was thus completely disabled by the last shell thrown from the Owasco.

St. Louis, March 10.—The Camp Blount, Arkansas, correspondent of the Democrat, of Feb. 26 says: "The Cherokee national Council has just adjourned. This is the same Council that was coerced into passing an ordinance of secession by the rebel army. Their first act was to repeal it unanimously; they then passed an act depriving all office in the nation and disqualifying all who continued disloyal to the United States. They also passed an act abolishing slavery."

Washington, March 10.—dispatches received today from Gen. Milroy, at Winchester, Va., stating that a strong force of Confederates were moving towards Winchester. They were near Lurey when the dispatch was written. Some believe them to be the Hampton Legion—others thought they were Hill's troops. Preparations had been made to give them a warm reception.

Murfreesboro, March 9.—A report has just reached here that Van Dorn's forces had been defeated and the larger portion of them captured. Rosecrans has ordered all whose natural supporters are in the rebel service and whose sympathies and convictions are such that they cannot justify an assurance that they will conduct themselves in a friendly manner, shall be in readiness to go South of our lines within ten days. A vast exodus from Murfreesboro will take place immediately.

New York, March 10.—A special dispatch to the Herald, from Salt Lake city of the 9, says that a collision between the military and the citizens was imminent.—Gov. Harding and Associates Waite and Drake are understood to have called on Col. Connor to arrest Brigham Young and Counsellors Kimball and Wells. The Judges of the District cannot serve any civil process and the citizens are in arms and determination to protect their leaders by military force. Federal officers and Mormon citizens have telegraphed to Gen. Wright to restrain Col. Connor until an investigation can be had. A Colonel, who left that morning for Washington, had been arrested by order of Col. Connor and brought back. It is presumed that his intentions were unfavorable to Connor's military interference.

New York, March 10.—A special Washington dispatch to the Tribune states that the spirits of the army are greatly better. Its health is excellent. The new regiments that contained the greatest percentage of sickness are rapidly improving. Everything looks cheering. General Order No. 20, promulgated to-day, contains the names of 120 officers absent without leave, who are ordered to report within 15 days or be dismissed from the service. The Times' Washington dispatch says that the Judges of the Supreme Court are in consultation in reference to all opinions in cases agreed upon before them and which are to be rendered to morrow. The cases that attract particular attention are prize cases to the new Almaden mines. The latter case, which involves millions of dollars, is in favor of the New Almaden Company and against the United States.

An order transferring Gen. Sumner to the command lately held by Gen. Curtis, will be issued to-morrow. The command will embrace Arkansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Nebraska and Colorado.

The Surgeon-General has directed that all sick and wounded soldiers who have been sick for three months and upwards, and are in a fit state to bear transportation, shall be immediately transferred to the general Hospital near these houses.

The Treasurer is provided with sufficient funds to meet all expected demands.

New York, March 10.—The money market is steady; sterling Exchange, 172. Gold closed at 57 a 59.

A special dispatch from Washington says the removal of Gen. Curtis from the Department of the West is officially announced.

A Havana letter, dated March 5, says the schooner Ocean Herald reports seeing, on the 24 of February, the wreck of a steamer, painted black, 22 miles from Alacran Reef lighthouse. There were no signs of life near her. On her consort the schooner picked up two water casks. Nothing has been heard of the Florida since the gunboat Sonoma chased her in a heavy gale one hundred miles from Alacran, and it is conjectured that the wreck might have been the pirate.

Chicago, March 10.—Tuesday's Times has a special dispatch dated Coldwater river, March 5, which says that Grant's expedition left Moon Lake Wednesday morning, reaching the end of the Pass yesterday at noon, 12 miles in three days and half of the twelve were spent in hard upper works, but not one was dismounted in the hull of machinery. The soldiers and seamen were occupied at every turn in cutting down trees and opening the channel. There was great danger of being dashed against the trees. A battery is reported at the mouth of the Coldwater. The health of the expedition is good. Later dispatches, dated Coldwater, March 6, say that the expedition has advanced 20 miles since the last report. The country is entirely destitute of population.

New York, March 10.—The steamer Roanoke, with New Orleans dates to March 1, and Havana to March 5, arrived. An information has been filed in the Provisional Court of the confiscation of the Slidell property in New Orleans. Era of the 1 states that 20 rebels who were recently sent through the rebel lines, returned begging to be allowed to take the oath of allegiance, and for bread. All were suffering from actual hunger, and the children were crying for food. They give a fearful statement of the destitution in rebeldom.

Vera Cruz advices state that the French army is entirely inactive, being unable to accomplish anything without large reinforcements. The French officers are disgusted. The health of the soldiers is very poor. Whole trains of supplies from Vera Cruz have been captured. The French are constructing a railroad to Puebla, and the guerrillas are annoying them by stealing the rails and running the cars off the track.

Chicago, March 11.—From several military centers of interest comes the announcement of perfect quiet reigning. There is nothing new from Vicksburg; everything in statu quo in Virginia, South Carolina and Louisiana.

Washington, March 11.—The Senate, in executive session, confirmed the following nominations:—William H. Wallace, of Washington Territory, Governor of Idaho; Wm. R. Daniels, Secretary of the Territory of Idaho; Sidney Edgerton, of Ohio, Chief Justice of the U. S. court in Idaho Territory; Samuel G. Parks, of Illinois, and Alex. C. Smith of Idaho, Associate Justices for Idaho; Richard Williams, Attorney of the U. S. court of Idaho; John A. Gurley, of Ohio, Governor of Arizona; Milton E. Duffield, of California, U. S. Marshal of Arizona; Wm. S. Howell, Associate Justice of the U. S. court for Arizona; John M. Goodwin, Chief Justice of U. S. court for Arizona; Richard C. McCormick, of New York, Secretary of Arizona; Ebenezer Peck, of Illinois, Judge of Court of Claims; Stephen G. Fields, of California, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; Joseph Lewis, of Penn., Comptroller of Internal Revenue; Moses W. Odell, of New York, Comptroller of Currency, 1st Assistant.—The committee on the conduct of the war will probably do little until next Congress.

The law does not provide bounty to those soldiers from disability from other causes than wounds; only those wounded and discharged have obtained bounty.

Thomas Brown, appointed special agent of the Treasury Department, to investigate the condition of subordinates on the Pacific Coast, has made a report, accompanied by large and voluminous testimony. The result will be the removal of Robert G. Stevens, Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco, for the retension in office of worthless subordinates. Collector Rankin will probably be allowed to resign.

The decision of the Secretary of the Treasury allowing foreign steamers to compete with the mail line, will not be introduced, though Robert G. Walker and others urge that it may be.

Washington, March 10.—The Supreme Court was the scene of great interest today, being engaged in rendering important decisions. At least fifty of the most eminent lawyers of the country were present. The decision in favor of the Government in the New Almaden mine case involves property estimated at $60,000,000 in value. Not altogether unexpected and unimportant decisions in prize cases, were announced by Judge Grier; ruling every point in favor of the Government, and condemning all vessels which violated the blockade. Justice Nelson delivered a dissenting opinion, that the civil war did not exist until after the 13th day of July, 1861, therefore, the President has no power to set on foot a blockade under the law of Nations, and that decisions in condemnation should be reversed and vessels and cargo restored. This dissenting opinion was concurred in by Justices Catrow and Clifford.

Salt Lake, March 11th.—The despatch published in the New York Herald of the 10th inst., and published in the California papers this morning, so far as regards my acts and intentions, is false.

P. Edward Conner,
Col. 3d Regiment.

Col. Conner is to be heavily reinforced.

Concord, (N. H.) March 10.—The citizens of the State has been one of extraordinary excitement. The vote, to-day, is comparatively the largest ever thrown for Governor. The Republicans support of James E. Gilmore; the Democrats, Ira A. Eastman; the Union or war Democrats, Col. Walter Harriman. The returns indicate an election by the people. The Republicans have a majority in the Governor's Council, Senate and House of Representatives.

Washington, 10.—The President will to-morrow issue a proclamation calling upon soldiers absent without leave to forthwith return to their respective regiments. All soldiers now absent, who return on or before the first of April, will be restored to their respective regiments without punishment, except forfeiture of pay and allowances during absence. All who do not return on or before the first of April will be posted as deserters and punished as provided by law.

New York, 11.—A Washington special dispatch says a Committee of the Chamber of Commerce had an interview with the President yesterday, urging him to make arrangements forthwith to issue letters of Marque and reprisal under the recent act of Congress. Their arguments are said to have made a strong impression on the President. The contrary view was, however urged by Senators, and by men prominent in the opposition to the bill. They represented to President Lincoln the dangers of foreign war in case he should do as requested. The subject is understood to have been before the Cabinet in its meeting today.

New York, 11.—A recent reconnoissance of Colonel Dodge, from Norfolk, has proved eminently successful. He marched 110 miles, visiting Smithfield, Clackstack and Blackwater Bridge. He met the enemy at Walkers, near the latter point, from their advance guard in on the main body, then attacked them on the flanks and forced them to retreat to the Blackwater. The fight lasted only forty minutes.

Jackson, (Tenn.), 10.—A skirmish has taken place between 200 infantry with two pieces of artillery, of Gen. Sullivan's division, and a body of rebel cavalry.

The Federals lost 100 men and their artillery. The cavalry surrounded our men and compelled them to surrender. Troops have been sent from here to the scene of the reported skirmish.

Gen Grant has ordered all officers who have resigned out of his department.

Rutherford's Creek, four miles north of Columbia, Tenn., 11.—Gen Granger came up with the enemy at this place yesterday afternoon. The advance guard was skirmishing yesterday. We lost two killed and several wounded, and captured several rebels, one of whom reports that Col. Coburn and 200 men had escaped, and were making their way to our lines.

New York, March 12.—The Tribune's Washington special says that it is reported that Government contemplates the establishment here or at Annapolis a camp of instruction for 1,000 men, as indication of purpose that will give utility to the conscription law.

Gen. Hooker was busy to-day with the President, the Secretary of War and the Committee on the conduct of the war. He returns to the army to-night.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac, March 12.—The pickets of the enemy ranged along portions of the line on the opposite side of the Rappahannock, are half negroes and half whites. The negroes are armed and uniformed. The fact appears beyond question, as only 150 yards intervene between our pickets and the enemy's. They are plainly to be distinguished.

New York, March 13.—A Washington special dispatch to the Herald gives the following: Rutherford's creek, near Columbia, March 11.—Van Dorn's whole rebel force has retreated towards Shelbyville.—The country between Nashville and Columbia is cleared of marauders and the means of crossing Duck river destroyed.

Gen. Hooker was examined to-day before the joint committee on the conduct of the war. The first question asked was, To what did he attribute the failure of the movement on the Peninsula? He stated that, as he was on oath he must answer the question; he attributed the failure to the incompetency of the commanding General.

New York, March 12.—Letters from England call renewed attention to an immense fleet building in Great Britain for the rebels and of the necessity of a peremptory demand on Palmerston to put a stop to the mode of making war.

The Navy Department is about to issue an advertisement for sea-going vessels on a new model, to carry 10 rifled guns, weighing 20 tons, with coalages and rigging; to have two pair of