

STAMP DUTIES.

There seems to be some misapprehension in regard to the particular kind of Stamp required for a particular transaction. The original Act did require each and every kind of transaction to be stamped with a stamp denoting that particular branch of business; but Congress seeing the difficulty and embarrassment to business which would necessarily arise from the stringency of the law, wisely passed an amendment to the Act. We give the amendment as it was approved, December 25th, 1862:

"Sec. 3.—And be it further enacted, That no instrument, document, writing, or paper of any description, required by law to be stamped, shall be deemed invalid, and of none effect for the want of the particular kind or denomination of stamp, designated for and denoting the duty charged on any such instrument, document, writing, or paper, provided a legal stamp or stamps, denoting a duty of equal amount, shall have been duly affixed and used thereon; provided, that no provision of this section shall apply to any stamp appropriated to denote the duty charged on proprietary articles."

In all cases where an adhesive stamp shall be used for denoting any duty imposed by this Act, the person using or affixing the same, shall write upon it the initials of his name, or define the same in such a manner as to show distinctly that such stamp has been used, under a penalty of fifty dollars.

Table of Stamp Duties with columns for item description and amount. Includes items like Bank Check, Certificate of Stock, Promissory Note, and various legal documents.

Eastern Correspondence.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 11th, 1863.

Editors REPUBLICAN: All is well and quiet in Baltimore. This being a Slave State, and having much sympathy with the South, the Government is wisely using every means to establish and sustain a wholesome Union feeling here, by keeping in and about the city a large and well organized force to keep in check those mad and reckless fire eaters, who, left to their will, would no doubt drench this beautiful city in blood, as clueless as they began the work at Sumter. The Union feeling is growing here, disloyalty is below par. So strong was the opposition a few months ago, that the loyalists could only meet at each other's houses, but last Wednesday over five hundred, many of the first families of the city, met at the principal hotel in the city, and mingled their heroic faith in the ultimate triumph of the old flag.

I am just up from Washington, less than two hours run on the cars from here. All is right at the Capital. Our Congress seems to be exerting itself for the good of the whole country, to establish and maintain as a nation her power and dignity, at the same time asking the people to be firm and patient, and not so effeminately feeble as some are disposed to be. True, no one here, even among this collection of statesmen, nor any of you in the distant West, nor the European spectator, with all his profundity, from the present state of things, or anything else can tell the exact result or finale of the war, but it is plainly true that a great government idea is involved, and opposed by a formidable force, and although that force recedes inch by inch, and at some points even maintains a position, yet who believes that the South will not be compelled to come to terms?

I see almost hourly, men immediately from the Army of the Potomac. It is well organized and in good spirits. Hooker is a live man; he is a soldier; he instills life into the army. If you were to see him you would feel the force and vim of the man. In fact, no army probably ever marched under the sun, of equal numbers, so well equipped and provided for. The wounded and sick have all that a hospital or soldier's camp can provide. Of course a soldier's bed is not a bed of down, nor a soldier's life provided with all the delicacies of a home fireside.

Money matters have been in something of a hobble. The idea got into the heads of many that the Government would be compelled to have specie to meet her demands and would pay an enormous premium for gold, but fortunately that idea of speculation fails, as the Government has specie in its Treasury.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The Walla Walla Statesman says that some thieves or "road agents" as they are called visited the Government herd grounds one night lately and stole some seventy head of mules. Col. Steinberger sent a detachment of men in pursuit of the thieves. They found their trail and followed them in the direction of the Cariboo country. The mules stolen were all team animals and valued at \$14,000 to \$17,000. The theft had evidently been long studied and well planned, as the animals stolen comprised the best in the lot. The Mountaineer, of the 21st, learns that the thieves were overtaken at the mouth of the Oceanagon. There were two white men in the party—one of them a notorious character known by the name of Stubbs—and an Indian. The two white men were immediately shot and killed. The Indian was taken back to Walla Walla, where most likely he will be hung. The mules were all recovered and sent back to the Government corral.

near the crossing of the Auburn and Boise trail. The report, as it reaches us, is that four miners were descending the river in a small boat. At the point named they found it necessary to make a portage, and two of the men stood guard, while the other two packed their blankets, provisions, etc. Whilst separated in this way, the Indians fell upon the two men engaged in packing, and murdered them. In addition to other plunder, the savages took thirty ounces of gold dust from the body of one of the murdered men. We have not been able to learn the date of this occurrence but understand that it was quite recent.—Mountaineer, 21st.

O. Jacobs has withdrawn from the editorial control of the Sentinel, leaving its management entirely to Mr. Denlinger, the publisher. The steamer Relief arrived at Lancaster last Thursday morning.

Mr. A. S. McClure, merchant of this place, started to Canemah last Wednesday, on a small boat, carrying about eight tons of freight. Mr. J. L. Brumley, also started the same day with a flat, carrying some forty or fifty tons of flour. Guess they are going to run opposition to the Relief. Bally for the Eugene folks, they can do their own work, and live independent of steamboats, "or any other man."

It will be seen by reference to our advertising columns that "Eugene City High School" will be re-opened on Tuesday, the 7th day of April. Mr. Cornelius is too well known to need any other recommendation.

LATEST EASTERN NEWS.

Memphis, March 13.—Reports from Vicksburg, the 9th state that Admiral Porter had received information that the Yazoo Pass expedition had captured Yazoo City, Miss., and destroyed the Confederate fleet between that point and Haines Bluff.

The canal opposite Vicksburg was temporarily opened by the washing away of the embankment at the mouth. It is reported that the noted guerrilla chief Richardson, with 400 men, had been captured near Covington, Tenn. The Federals surrounded and surprised them.

Cincinnati, March 13.—A gentleman from Savannah, who arrived yesterday, says a member of the South Carolina Legislature reports an immense army massed in Tennessee, one half held Rosecrans in check, while the other half flank him and enter Kentucky, and move direct on Louisville and Cincinnati. They are only waiting for the river to fall and the roads to dry.

New York, March 13.—The Australia, from Liverpool, with dates to February 28th, has arrived. Seward's dispatch rejecting Napoleon's mediation attracted comment. The Star praises the dispatch and thinks it unanswerable. The Post is very bitter, and looks upon the letter as humbug emanating from the Washington Cabinet.

The Czar of Russia announces that the Russians have been beaten near Malagosch. After an engagement of five hours the town was left in ruins. Polish questions still continue to be the prominent topic. It was the subject of an important debate in the House of Commons. All the speakers condemned the Russian Policy; but the Government was left untrammelled by any resolutions.

The feeling in Paris, is directly in favor of the Poles; but the impression was that diplomatic means would suffice to settle the matter. An important debate was progressing in the Russian Chamber on neutrality. The policy of the Government interposing was vehemently attacked by many speakers.

Washington, March 14.—The Senate voted to adjourn at two o'clock to-morrow. The Secretary of the Treasury went to New York this morning, for the purpose, it is stated, of raising \$100,000,000 for immediate wants, on bids of \$50,000,000 from sales of twenty years bonds authorized by the recent law.

The appointment of Edward Connor, of California, as Consul to Guaymas has been confirmed. A man was arrested to-day, with papers in his possession proving that he crossed our lines eight times, as an agent of the Southern Confederacy. Other things being equal, disabled soldiers are to be selected as Provost Marshals under the National Militia Law, in preference to other applicants.

It is rumored that the rebels are preparing to cross the Rappahannock and attack Hooker, but it is not credited. Gen. Blair has been urged for the command of the Department of Texas.

Headquarters, Sixth Army Corps, near White Oak Church Va., March 12.—Unmistakable preparations are now being made for a speedy movement of the army. The transportation is being cut down to facilitate movements in the coming march. Officers are warned that all superfluous baggage must be sent home; also that their wedge tents cannot be transported in future. In the coming campaign nothing more will be allowed than shelter tents, such as men have, which can be carried on their backs.

A refugee who arrived within our lines to-day from Charleston, says the rebels have about 400 guns in position around that city. The west side is poorly fortified. There are a number of iron-clad shore batteries in the harbor, mounted with the heaviest guns. He thinks the city impregnable from the water approach.

The Richmond Dispatch speaks discouragingly of the prospect for food, and says the impression of flour and grain by the Government, discourages production. The Enquirer contains an announcement that Beauregard has revoked all furloughs, and called all absentees to their posts.

New York, March 14.—The Express states that Secretary Chase was to-day offered \$100,000,000 in gold by European parties, which would at current rates of exchange be equivalent to par here.

A Washington dispatch, says an official report has been made at headquarters, of the discovery of negro cavalry pickets on the south bank of the Rappahannock, below Fredericksburg. At the United States Ford, night before last, a large new encampment of the enemy was discovered, as if the rebels were meditating another advance to this side. Our forces are vigilant.

Cairo, March 14.—Memphis advices to the 12th, have been received. An important move-

ment of troops was taking place below. We look for important results soon. The Yazoo Pass expedition, it is likely, has given us an advantage not heretofore appreciated. Officers from the vicinity of Vicksburg, say that strong hold must soon capitulate or do worse.

Washington, March 14.—The Government is in receipt of a dispatch from Gen. Rosecrans, announcing the evacuation of Vicksburg; this created much excitement, and is generally credited in official circles. The Navy Department has been in possession of information, for some days, from the Mississippi Flotilla, leading to the belief that the enemy had been moving guns, provisions, etc., from Vicksburg to the interior, and otherwise giving signs of evacuation.

San Francisco, March 15.—The schooner J. M. Chapman, which cleared yesterday for Manzanillo, was getting under way this morning, when she was boarded by three boats from the United States sloop of war Cyane. The crew were armed; they took possession of the vessel, and she was towed over to Alcatraz and made fast to a wharf. Eighteen men were found on board the schooner, which was an excess for a vessel of only 91 tons register.

San Francisco, March 16.—The following is the clearance of the schooner J. M. Chapman, seized yesterday by the Custom House authorities, on charge of being a rebel pirate, intending to prey upon the United States commerce: 787 flasks quicksilver, 50 cases drugs, bread, cordage, oil, wines, etc., all of the value of \$53,575. A partial examination of the vessel was taken to-day, which resulted in finding fifty men in the hold; also several cases marked "machinery" the contents of which on examination, proved to consist of several brass cannon, and large inventories of muskets, pistols, cutlasses, powder, gold and hollow shot and shrapnel. The vessel is a fast sailer and the Government officers state that they have full proof of the contemplated use of her as a privateer under the rebel flag. Her ostensible owner, Ridgely Greathouse, together with all found on board, are now in Alcatraz.

Near Vicksburg, March 7.—The river is still rising—weather fine. An order was issued yesterday for all boats under 100 feet in length, to report for transport duty immediately. This is understood to mean an advance to Yazoo City. The rebels are reported to be preparing several vessels as rams and gunboats, to fight anything that may run the blockade in future. The Julia was so badly wrecked that she cannot be raised by the rebels. Gen. Joseph E. Johnson threatens retaliation upon our officers should Admiral Porter carry out his threat to hang guerrillas. The fate of Vicksburg will be decided by the first of April.

Near Vicksburg, 9.—The river has risen so high, that Gen. McClernand's troops have been compelled to move 16 miles further up—to Milliken's bend. The levee is broken in several places. Recent operations at Lake Providence and elsewhere, have resulted in the inundation of more than a hundred miles of country. The Louisiana guerrillas have been drowned out from the points where they used to trouble our gunboats. The Yazoo pass project is a success. The gunboats are above Hayne's Bluff, and will soon commence the attack. Rumors are rife to the effect that the rebels are evacuating Vicksburg. They will have to leave Granada also, as soon as we get possession of the Yazoo river. The most of their force will go to Chattanooga, where they hope to overwhelm Rosecrans. Our fleet captured 26 transports, up the Yazoo, destroying 18 of them. The mortar boats will commence firing to-day.

Cairo, 15.—Two Kentuckians, lately from Texas, give gloomy accounts of affairs there. They consider the cause of the Confederacy on its last legs. There is destitution and suffering every where. The fare at the first class hotels at Atlanta is beef, without salt, roasted sweet potatoes, coffee made of burnt molasses, for which they charge \$20 per day. All well to do farmers have substitutes in the army. The people desire peace on any terms.

Southern guerrillas, composed largely of men of desperate fortunes, have, for months, afflicted the people around Bolivar. On Monday a detachment was sent from Bolivar to look after them. They were found eight miles from that place, and were completely routed; 187 were captured and the remainder were killed and wounded.

All the country between Jackson and the Tennessee river is submerged, the water being from five to six feet deep. The Tennessee river, last week, rose eight feet in two hours.

Van Dorn crossed Duck river, but finding the Tennessee high, and the boats destroyed, turned back to Columbia. It is believed that his movements towards middle Tennessee were feints, and that the intention was to make an attack upon our lines between Columbus and Corinth.

New York, 15.—The Herald's dispatch says that the rebels have considerable force of cavalry artillery and infantry, in the Shenandoah valley.

Reliable information has reached Government that Lee's army is not materially weakened, but has been industriously employed in the erection of defensive works at Fredericksburg. No intention has been manifested of abandoning that point.

A dispatch to the Mercury says that General Hooker will be ready to march in about a week. It is rumored that he will march direct to Richmond, via Urbana, on the lower Rappahannock.

The Herald says that Secretary Chase has been very successful in making arrangements in New York, for extensive loans, which will realize the wants of the Government to such an extent as to preclude the probability of an additional issue of legal tenders.

Washington, 16.—The belief of the evacuation of Vicksburg is very strong today, in alleghes, and is based upon the ground that the Federals forced evacuation by cutting off supplies, and surrounding the city. Fort Hudson will be left to hold the Mississippi if possible, while the rebel troops at Vicksburg go to the interior and rein force East Tennessee.

The War Department is closely employed in arranging the machinery of the conscription. Gen. Barndis is still here, awaiting orders for his new command.

New York, 16.—It is alleged that resolutions had been silently preparing by Napoleon, to recall the French army from Mexico, and treat with Guerran, based upon a report from Gen.

Forey, that the popularity of the Mexican President endures his reelection. It is added that the Emperor wishes to avoid a conflict, daily becoming imminent with Northern States, in consequence of the aid they offered the Mexicans, and the unpleasant relations between Mercier and Seward, and the refusal of the Washington Cabinet of the last proposition of the French.

Washington, March 17.—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has decided that promissory notes, for not exceeding thirty days, including three days grace, shall bear a one cent stamp; exceeding thirty-three days, and not exceeding sixty, including three days grace, a two cent stamp; exceeding sixty-three, and not exceeding ninety-three, including grace, a three cent stamp. Consequently a note of sixty-three days including grace, would possess legal value having a two cent stamp affixed thereto.

Charleston and Mobile papers of the 14th, have been received. There were seven blockaders off Charleston.

Richmond papers of the 13th, announce the arrival of the captured Gen. Stoughton and others. Conrad, of Louisiana, introduced, in the rebel Congress, on the 11th, resolutions alluding to peace.

Gen. Hooker and the Medical Director pronounce the Army of the Potomac as healthy as any in the world.

It is said that the difficulties which constrained Sigel to resign have been adjusted and that he will withdraw his resignation and return to his old command.

New York, 17.—New Orleans advices to the 8th received. Preparations had been made for an immediate attack on Fort Hudson. Gens. Banks and Grover had left Baton Rouge. The pirate Florida called at Barbadoes the 24th ult., and left the next day.

San Francisco, 17.—Further examination of the pirate schooner Chapman increases the evidence against her. A copy of their oath found, convicts them to act for the benefit of the Southern Confederacy by heavy punishment to any recant. Another paper which was found, was to have been published, and circulated secretly among the secessionists throughout the State. It appears they were to furnish themselves with arms, and collect in Sacramento at a given date, seize a steamer, cut the telegraph wire, go to Mexico and seize the Arsenal, and then come down and take Fort Alcatraz and Fort Point by surprise. After this, California was to be declared out of the Union and a member of the Confederacy. The Chapman's guns were two 12 pounders; she also had 220 sea rifles, 30 kegs of powder, 2,000 loaded shells, small arms etc. A. P. Crittenden is under arrest for complicity in the affair. Treadwell & Co. publish a card, stating that in 1860 they imported the brass pieces and shell, found on board the Chapman, for an agent of the Mexican Government, and that they arrived after the war was over, and they were left on their hands, until a broker purchased them a few years ago, representing him self as an agent for Mexico.

Gen. Wright has ordered all soldiers absent with out leave, to report at military headquarters at San Francisco or Fort Vancouver, on the 1st of April. Sacramento, 17.—In the Senate the bill authorizing issuance of bonds to the amount of \$600,000, for defence of the State, ordered engrossed. In the Assembly, the committee on military affairs recommended the passage of the bill to provide additional pay for volunteers. Mr. Horner gave notice of a bill to levy a tax of twenty cents on every \$100, for the purchase of a steam war vessel for coast defence. A bill levying a tax for the completion of the State Capitol was discussed until after 4 o'clock P. M., and passed with an amendment reducing the tax to five cents. Senate Bill, to enforce contracts for obligations in gold, was passed by a large majority.

From THE MINES.—The papers from the upper country bring but little news from the mines. The snows were melting and miners in the different districts were preparing to work. Attention is turned to the Beaver Head country, where the miners have taken out from five to fifty dollars a day. About a thousand persons have wintered there. Rich quartz lodes have been discovered. "Daetah" lode pays eight dollars to the miner. Other mines have been discovered on the dividing range between the Pacific and Atlantic. An express was to be run to Salt Lake City. Miners are busy at Elk City. Ditches are being rapidly completed. A nugget of smooth gold was found on Relief Creek weighing three ounces. Several other pieces weighed from five to thirty dollars. About Elk City prospects are better than ever before.

Small boats are successfully ascending Snake river above Lewiston. Some have reached Pittsburg Landing, about 100 miles above Lewiston. No trouble is anticipated for steamers. The miners on the Little South Fork of Clearwater are going to work immediately, the ice having disappeared. Miners on Salmon and John Day's Creek have been doing a remunerative business during the last winter.—Oregonian.

THANKS.—Mr. Charles Barrett, the gentlemanly and enterprising News Dealer of Portland, has again remembered our "sanctum," to the tune of a large and well assorted roll of papers, pamphlets, magazines and pictorials, from the East, also a lot of the most substantial literary and pictorial publications of Europe. Mr. B. merits the liberal patronage of the reading public. Call in, or send in and get anything you want in the reading line, on the most reasonable terms. Store on Front Street, opposite the Pioneer Hotel, Portland, Oregon.

Ed's REPUBLICAN: You will please state that we have received from G. N. E. M. Barnum a statement of allowances on all scrip forwarded by us prior to November, 1861; and that we have received Treasury Notes sufficient to pay about two-thirds of the allowances; and that, although no instructions accompanied the money, we have concluded to pay out as far as it will go, and pay out in the order sent by us.

Yours, ELLSWORTH & UNDERWOOD. March 24th, 1863.

FALLING STARS are near the earth; the fixed stars are far off in the heavens. A radiant cloud is most beautiful to behold, but it is the dark one that gives the fertilizing showers.