

The Oxford Democrat

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JOHN J. PERRY, Editor.

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MILDRED'S SACRIFICE.

The vases of heliotrope in Miss Delford's dainty little parlor were distilling their sweet fragrance in the delicious evening breeze that tossed the muslin curtains and from through the open windows, and the cherry boughs overshadowing the piazza eaves were hung with sparkling jewel-sprays of crimson fruit. July was purpling all the horizon with amethyst light; July brooded over the hills with tender warmth; and Clara Delford, in her dark, rich beauty seemed like a typical blossom of the brightest month in all the year.

Did Captain Verner notice the changing color in her olive cheek; the blaze that glowed beneath her brilliancy? Did he observe how she had posed herself on the tiny footstool close beside Mildred Moore's shadowy white draperies, and pure colorless features? Clara Delford understood contrast and knew that Captain Verner did not; he only knew that the two girls were like rose and lily—fervid sunshine, and pale, white starlight.

"If I could only do something for those poor, suffering soldiers," she said, breaking the momentary silence, as if in continuation of the previous conversation. "Would it not be possible for me to devote a portion of my small means to their comfort?"

Captain Verner smiled; for the heiress to speak of her "small means" seemed, even to him, like an unnecessary bit of ostentation.

"Certainly," he said, "and I can assure you the money could not be spent to a better purpose."

"Will you object to acting as my treasurer?" smiled Clara, with pretty, appealing softness in her eyes.

"Not at all; there are, in my own regiment, many cases of hardship, even destitution, which it would give me great pleasure to relieve. Thank you"—as she opened the tiniest of silken purses and placed a bank note in his hand with blushing confusion—"I know from experience how much good twenty dollars can do!"

All this time Mildred Moore had sat silent in the shadow of the cherry boughs; now she quietly withdrew. Captain Verner's eyes followed her slight, willow figure with involuntary attraction.

"You mustn't misinterpret poor, dear Mildred's silence," whispered Clara, as the door closed; "of course she is interested in my hospital reminiscences; but I don't think she cares very much about the poor soldiers—Milly's nature is not sympathetic, and—"

"And," added the straight-forward soldier, "her means are very limited. She gives music lessons, or something, don't she?"

He had risen and stood there, tall and handsome, in the golden July moonlight, Clara's beautiful ideal of man.

"Good night, Miss Clara. I must stop at Harwood Grange for five minutes to tell them about their two boys who fell at Fredericksburg, and I've two or three little errands to attend to in the town. We soldiers, you know, are scarcely at our own disposal."

He held the little jeweled hand in his moment, perhaps unconscious he coldly pressed it and then vanished through the crimson-sparkled branches of the cherry trees. As he walked along whistling softly to himself, he thought of Clara in her strange, transcendent beauty—of her melting liquid eyes and her mouth, like Cupid's bow, carved in scarlet coral.

"It was generous in her to give that money," he thought. "But I can't understand—hang it! it's no business of mine, I suppose—but why couldn't Miss Mildred have expressed her sympathy in words at least? It annoys me a little, and yet I don't for the life of me, see why it should."

"You sent that set of onyx to my mother?" he asked an hour or so later, as he entered the stylish little jewelry store in the main street of the town. "Yes? Then it is all right, and I may as well settle the bill."

He tossed a fifty-dollar Treasury Note on the counter as he spoke.

I hardly like to part with that money, he laughed. "The fact is, I've kept it about me so long that it seems almost like a lucky penny. However, there it goes—hand over your receipt."

He dashed the bit of paper into his pocket-book with the quickness that characterized all his motions, and walked out again, the low refrain that made a sort of company from his solitude.

It was nearly midnight, the air dewy and sultry, and the stars blazing in the violet canopy of heaven, yet Captain Verner still sat in his balcony, idly looking out upon the summer night, with the faint fragrance his cigar wreathed about him. Was he thinking of Miss Clara Delford, or—

"Half-past eleven—high time I was asleep," soliloquized the Captain, at length, giving his cigar a toss into the quiet street, below, and entering the room when a shadow

ed lamp cast a circle of subdued light on heaps of discolored papers.

"Hallo—what's this?" he said, half aloud taking up a tiny note that lay lightly on the top. "This is a new arrival in my chaos of document, or I'm mistaken."

The direction, "Captain Verner," was in a strange handwriting—nor did the contents afford any clue. Nothing appeared further than a fifty dollar note wrapped in a bit of paper on which was penciled these words:—"For the soldiers!"

The next glance, however, discovered new grounds of conjecture and perplexity—he held the note in the full glare of the lamp, turning it eagerly from side to side.

"I thought I couldn't be mistaken," he muttered; it is the very note I paid at Atkinson's to-night—here are my initials "E. V.," in the corner. Now how on earth—"

He paused, apparently in deep thought. "Very provoking that I can't find out to-night," he murmured; "but I'll go to Atkinson's the first thing in the morning!"

The early dew was yet weighing down the half-brown roses in the simple town garden, when Capt. Verner entered the jewelry store where he had purchased the set of onyx for his mother.

"What can I do for you this morning, Captain?" inquired the brisk little jeweler as he came forward rubbing his smooth, white hands.

"A great deal, Mr. Atkinson; you can tell me to whom you paid out this Treasury Note last night?"

He laid the mysterious "greenback" on the glass counter; Atkinson took it up and scrutinized it closely, then referred to his books.

"Certainly I can," he said; "I purchased a very beautiful pearl ring from a lady, yesterday evening, and paid for it with that identical bill."

A pearl ring!—the simple words seemed to throw him off the scent again. The jeweler unlocked his show case, and took out a small violet-velvet case, lined with white silk, in which glimmered a pearl of surpassing beauty set in plain, gold circle.

"There it is," he said. Ten years ago I sent to New York for that very ring, ordered by Dr. Moore as a birthday gift to his little daughter, then just twelve years old."

"Dr. Moore?" repeated Verner.

"Yes. Times are sadly changed now, yet I did not suppose that Miss Mildred would ever have been induced to part with that favorite jewel—the only relic, I may venture to say, she has ever retained of wealthier days."

Captain Verner looked down at the ring through a strange, unwonted mist. How different was this silent sacrifice of sweet memory and old associations to Clara Delford's ostentatious gift from her overflowing coffers! "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I unto thee." The words came to him like a revelation of Mildred Moore's nature.

Only nine o'clock, but not too early for Mildred Moore to be watering her sweet peas and geraniums in the cottage garden. Nay, so busy was she with a tiny pink blossom which had broke from its fastening, that she never heard approaching footsteps until Captain Verner's shadow fell across the flower border. Then she started up, with large, dilated eyes, like those of a frightened fawn, and carmine burning in her usually colorless cheeks.

"Captain Verner!"

"Do not be startled, Miss Mildred," he said, with gentle, reassuring accents, "I have only called to thank you for your kind donation to the sick soldiers."

She clasped her hands over her flushed face, like a child detected in some fault.

"I beg your pardon; I did not think—I never intended!"

"Nay," he interrupted, earnestly, "I have learned the history of this ring. Your sacrifice is not unappreciated, and—"

He stopped, for she had burst into convulsive sobs and tears. It was entirely a new phase of her being. Captain Verner stood completely confounded. Had he known her all these months and yet remained ignorant of the passionate depth and emotion of her character? She was there before him, no longer the fair, passionless statue, but a lovely woman, made lovelier still by tears! The citadel of his heart—undermined long ago, unconsciously to himself—surrendered at this last attack. And who could blame him?

"Don't Mildred! I he said, caressingly. "My dearest girl, if you knew how it grieved me to see you weep?"

"Pardon me," she faltered; "I am ashamed of being so foolish, but it was all I had to give!"

"Mildred," he whispered, opening the violet-velvet casket, "I have brought back the ring; will you accept it again?"

She looked at him with startled eyes and glowing cheeks, as if some deep meaning lay hidden in his words.

"Let me place it on your finger, love.

Wear it as an engagement ring." He went on: "O! Mildred, I never knew till now how dear you were to me? will you be my cherished wife?"

What Mildred's answer was is not at all not all to the purpose—only Mrs. Grundy thinks it very strange "that Miss Moore should wear a pearl engagement ring when diamonds are all in fashion!" [Harper's Weekly.

Taxes are Taxes.

If any one is dissatisfied here, let him go to the sunny South, "that only remaining home of liberty on this continent," as some uncommonly idiotic person called it at the recent peace-at-any-price meeting in New York. Some of the copperheads groan dolefully at the taxes levied to support the government and carry on the war for the Union. If they disapprove of the object, that certainly makes the burden hard to bear; but we sincerely wish these grumblers could be transported across the lines to be taxed by their friend Mr. Davis.

The Richmond Sentinel of the 25th May publishes in full the tax act of the rebel Congress. The various parts are condensed below. We recommend all who are dissatisfied with our taxes to read this, and then say if they are ready to go South.

The first section levies a tax of eight per cent. on the value of all naval stores, salt, wines, spirituous liquors, tobacco manufactured or unmanufactured, cotton, wool, flour, sugar, molasses, syrups, rice and other agricultural productions. Bankers are taxed \$500; auctioneers \$50, and 2-1-2 per cent. on the gross amount of their sales; wholesale liquor dealers are taxed \$200 and 5 per cent of their gross sales; retail liquor dealers pay \$100 and 10 per cent. of gross sales; distillers pay \$200 and 20 per cent. of gross sales; hotels and eating houses pay according to the yearly rental of the property, from \$800 a year down to \$30; theatres pay \$500 and 5 per cent of gross sales; billiard rooms pay \$40 for each table; butchers and bakers pay \$50 and 1 per cent. of gross sales; pedlars pay \$50 and 2-1-2 per cent. of sales; photographers, lawyers, apothecaries, doctors and confectioners pay \$50 each, with a tax on all but lawyers and doctors of 2-1-2 per cent. of sales. Incomes are taxed as follows: over \$500 and under \$1,500 a year, 5 per cent.; over \$1,500 and less than \$3,000 a year, 5 per cent on the first \$1,500, and 10 per cent on the rest; over \$3,000 and less than \$5,000, 10 per cent.; over \$5,000 and less than \$10,000, 12 1-2 per cent.; over \$10,000, 15 per cent.

Farmers are taxed savagely. We copy the provision verbatim:

"Sec. 11. Each farmer and planter in the Confederate States, after reserving for his own use fifty bushels of sweet potatoes and fifty bushels of Irish potatoes, one hundred bushels of the corn or fifty bushels of the wheat produced in the present year, shall pay and deliver to the Confederate government, of the products of the present year, one-tenth of the wheat, corn, oats, rye, buckwheat or rice, sweet and Irish potatoes, and of the cured hay and fodder; also one-tenth of the sugar, molasses made of cane, cotton, wool and tobacco; the cotton ginned and packed in some secure manner, and tobacco shipped and packed in boxes, to be delivered by him on or before the first day of March in the next year. Each farmer or planter, after reserving twenty bushels of peas or beans, but not more than twenty bushels of both, for his own use, shall deliver to the Confederate government, for its use, one-tenth of the peas, beans and ground peas produced and gathered by him during the present year."

There is but one species of property exempt from taxation—the slaves. But if the war continues another year there will be no slaves left to be taxed; so that in reality this exemption of the slaveholders will not benefit them greatly.

[N. Y. Evening Post.

GEN. MEADE ON THE WAR. Below we give the letter of Gen. Meade addressed to the Loyal National League, of New York and read at the great mass meeting in Union Square some months since. If our readers wish to compare great things with small ones, they can do so after perusing some of the democratic letters sent to General. Ordinarily it would not be policy to publish it, for the fact that the Gen. is unconditionally pledged to the support of the Union, is enough to excite metallic hatred against him.

"My views, which you asked for, are very brief and simple. They are, that it is, and should be, the unpunctured and unhesitating duty of every citizen of the Republic to give his whole energies, and to contribute all the means in his power, to the determined prosecution of the war, until the integrity of the Government is re-established, and its supremacy acknowledged. Deprecating as useless all discussion as to the cause of the war, the fact of its existence, and the necessity for its continuance, should alone occupy us.

For its successful prosecution and termination, I am clearly of the opinion there is only required union and harmony among ourselves and the bringing men and means proportionate to the power and resource of the country.

"For the purpose of securing union and harmony, I know of no measure better calculated than the organization of your Union League. Its broad and simple platform is one to which citizens of all parties can readily subscribe; and I have no doubt its effect will be most salutary in proving to those who are in arms to subvert the Government, that, whatever differences of opinion may exist on minor points, upon the main point of there being but one Government and one flag, we are determined and united."

THE FATE OF THE TERRITORIES. However the war may ultimately affect the States already settled in the North or the South, it must in any case decide the fate of the unoccupied Territories west of the Mississippi. These vast and fertile Territories are the natural heritage of free industry; but were it possible for the South to succeed in its enterprise, they would inevitably be smitten with the curse and blight of slavery. The North is in arms to prevent the perpetration of this gigantic crime, and no one pretends to doubt that the success of the North on the Mississippi would secure from the polluting grasp of the Slave Power the States and Territories west of that river. Whether the North loves or hates the negro, it knows perfectly well the special and economical results of slave industry, and has long since resolved in its future development to have nothing to do with a system so ruinous, criminal, and demoralizing. The South are equally resolved to carry slavery with them, and make it the basis of their social system wherever they go. We see the result. The North have colonized many new States in different latitudes, and so also have the South. But the North has never established a Slave State, nor the South a Free one. The Territories are the real issue at stake, and the sword was never drawn in a more righteous cause than that which seeks to preserve them from the misery and pollution of slavery.

[London Daily News, July 3.

A QUAKERESS'S DREAM. There is a beautiful story of a pious old Quaker lady who was addicted to smoking tobacco. She indulged in this habit until it increased so much upon her that she not only smoked her pipe a large portion of the day, but frequently sat up in her bed for this purpose at night. After one of these nocturnal entertainments she fell asleep, and dreamed that she died, and approached heaven. Meeting an angel, she asked him if her name was written in the book of life. He disappeared, but replied, upon returning, that he could not find it.

"Oh," she said, "do look again, it must be there."

He examined again, but returned with a sorrowful face.

"It is not there!"

"Oh!" she said in agony, "it must be there; I have the assurance it is there! Do look again."

The angel was moved to tears by her entreaties, and again left her to renew his search. After a long absence he came back with his face radiant with joy, and exclaimed:

"We have found it, but it was so clouded with tobacco smoke that we could hardly see it."

The woman upon waking, immediately threw her pipe away, and never indulged in smoking again.

THE CLIMAX. A clergyman in England, one Sunday, informed his hearers that he should divide his discourse into three parts, the first would be terrible, the second the horrible, the third the terrible horrible. Assuming a dramatic tragic attitude, and wishing to bring the sulphurous lake vividly before the mind's eye of the hearer, he swung his right arm wildly, pointing to about the centre of the church, with his eyes seemingly transfixed with horror, he exclaimed in startling, agonizing tones: "What's that I see there?" Still louder, "what's that I see there?" Louder yet with a wilder swing of the arm; "What's that I see there?" Here a little old woman in black, cried out with a shrill treble tone: "It's nothing but my little black dog; he won't bite nobody."

A leading officer in one of the courts was charged with never going to bed sober. Of course he indignantly denied the soft impeachment; and gave the particulars of a particular night in proof.

We quote his own words:

"Pretty soon after I got into bed, my wife said:

"Why, husband, what is the matter with you? You act so strangely."

"There is nothing the matter with me," said I; nothing at all."

"I'm sure there is," she said; "you don't act natural at all. Shall I get up and get something for you?"

And she got up and lighted the candle, and came to the bedside to look at me, shading the light with her hand.

"I knew there was something strange about you," said she. "Why you are sober!"

"Now this is a fact, and my wife will swear to it. So don't slander me any more, by saying I haven't been to bed sober in six months, 'cause I have."

Such testimony was considered reliable and the man now enjoys his new found reputation.

GRASS FED INDIANS. One of the California journals has the following statement relative to a new kind of food adopted by the "Digger Indians," as they are called: "There are two considerable Indian villages in the vicinity at the present time, and the Indians, who looked as lean and gaunt as half famished wolves during the past winter, now appear enjoying all the luxuries that an abundant supply of beef and bread can afford. The hills in the vicinity are verdant with nice tender clover, which is devoured by these poor savages with as much gusto as an epicure would devour the most dainty dish. They gather the clover in baskets and prepare it for use by heating large stones and placing a layer of clover well moistened between each layer of stones. It soon becomes ready for use, and each one of them will eat a supply of clover thus prepared that would almost supply a horse."

ROLAND FOR AN OLIVER. In 1848, while the Convention which nominated General Taylor was in session at Philadelphia, a somewhat noted local politician from Pickaway county, Ohio, was in the city mingling in the mass. As the Convention adjourned over Sabbath, he concluded to go to church. We will let him tell his own story:

"I had mounted my best regalia, and looked fine; stopped at the door and asked the sexton for a seat; was shown a very good one, entirely unoccupied, in the back part of which I seated myself. In a short time a very decent-looking man man plainly dressed, entered and took the front of the pew. I held my head reverently, and looked pious. He glanced at me several times, then took out a white handkerchief and looked at me again, then took out a card, drew his pencil, wrote, 'This is my pew, sir,' and tossed the card to me.

"I picked it up, and immediately wrote on it, 'It is a very good one. What rent do you pay?' and tossed back."

A young lady, in a class studying Physiology, made answer to a question put, that in six years a human body became entirely changed, so that not a particle which was in it at the commencement of the period would remain at the close of it. "Then, Miss L——," said the young tutor, "in six years you will cease to be Miss L——?" "Why, yes sir, I suppose so," said she very modestly looking at the floor.

The Boston Post's "Quill" being about to leave town, remarked to his servant that he should "start for New York to-morrow Deco volante." (God willing.)

"What route is that, sir?" enquired the valet.

"By way of Providence, of course," replied Quill.

A chain of gold was recently picked up in a field in England, weighing eleven pounds. The finder, a countryman, supposing it, from its size, to be brass, sold it for a few shillings; but it did not do the purchaser any good, for the government asserted its right to treasure trove, seized and appropriated it. It is supposed to have belonged to one of the old Celtic kings, and to be some two thousand years old.

A younger brother had espoused an old and ill-tempered wife, but extremely rich, he used to say. "Whenever I find my wife cross and my own temper giving way, I retire to my library, and console myself by reading her marriage settlement."

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FOR CO. TREASURER:

WILLIAM A. PIDGIN of Paris.

Under which Flag.

The American Revolution inaugurated a new page in the history of governments. The results of that great struggle developed themselves in the formation of a government of the people. The toils, privations, sacrifices and prayers of the illustrious heroes of that day gave to the world a republic based upon the inalienable rights of men. For about eighty years their posterity north and south travelled on under the benign influences of the best government the world ever saw, from greatness to glory. We became a mighty nation in all those elements which go to make up national greatness. Our power as a government was recognized throughout the world. During all this time, what are now the rebel States, enjoyed every right guaranteed to them under the Constitution. Although in a numerical minority they had for a large majority of the time controlled the policy of the government. The national Executive and Congress were in their interests. They dictated what should be done and what was done. The institution of slavery had been for years a nucleus about which the South could be rallied, and through the agency of the democratic party, every department of the national government became subservient to their wishes. But with all this, the leaders of the party were dissatisfied. That gifted man John C. Calhoun as long ago as 1832 commenced plotting treason against the government. Benton and other far seeing statesmen warned the American people of his treasonable designs. For thirty years secession has been gaining strength in the South under the lead of the disciples of Calhoun. Factions demagogues have during all this time, been stirring up rebellion, seizing hold of the slavery question, as the great rallying cry. John C. Calhoun and his traitorous followers at last succeeded in so influencing the public mind, that open, armed rebellion broke out against the government, inaugurating a civil war, such as the world never before saw. For more than two years it has been raging, until it has become the great question, before the American people, superceding all others. In this gigantic conflict there is and there can be, but two sides, but two parties. There are but two flags, the old stars and stripes and the pirate flag of Jeff. Davis. Under one or the other of these flags every man North and South, East and West must rally. There is no such thing as neutrality in this war. It is the old flag of the union or the flag of the bogus confederacy. Every man is lending his influence and support in favor of the old government instituted and handed down to us by our fathers or he is against that government and in favor of rebellion. And we mean this remark to apply not only South but North. Here in Maine, men are following after the fortunes of the government of the bogus confederacy. The man that does not support Abraham Lincoln in his efforts to subdue the rebels, supports Jeff Davis in his efforts to divide the Union and destroy the government. Now under which flag are we sailing? That is the question that we would press home to every man's heart and conscience. Factions opposition to the National administration is treason to the government. The men that rave at Lincoln on account of his emancipation proclamation array themselves against freedom and in favor of slavery. They very well know that the President hesitated long before he resorted to this measure as a matter of military necessity, and before he done it the question was narrowed down to this simple proposition: Will you lose slavery and thereby save the government or stick to slavery and destroy the government. We can with just as much propriety rail at the President for sending out our men of war to capture Jeff Davis pirates as to find fault with him for this measure resorted to for the noble purpose of saving the government from destruction. A great deal of censure is cast upon the last Congress and upon President Lincoln on account of the conscription act. Look at the consistency of these men. They think Jeff Davis does right in conscripting every man in the bogus confederacy to destroy the government, but if Congress passes a humane conscription law to save it, that is awful, beyond description.

If these northern traitors think President Lincoln's conscription wrong, let them go down South among their friends and let Jeff Davis put his iron heel of universal conscription upon their necks and see how they like that. "Under which flag?" that's the question. The great issue is, shall the union be preserved or shall it be destroyed and a great slave despotism erected upon its ruins? Truth and error freedom and slavery, right and wrong are grappling in

deadly conflict. Every man is arrayed upon one side or the other. Again we ask, under which flag?

The \$300 Commutation.

There are four considerations connected with an effective conscription. 1st. Government may make all able bodied citizens of proper age, subject to enrollment, and compel every drafted man to serve in the army or navy. 2d. It may discriminate in making the draft, and exempt certain professions and positions, yet, compel every drafted man to enter the service. 3d. It may allow every drafted man the choice of going in person or providing an acceptable substitute. 4th. It may provide that the government will furnish a substitute by the payment of a certain specified sum by the person drafted.

We undertake to say, that the present conscription law has so combined these considerations, as to make its provisions equitable to all, and especially considerate and beneficent to poor men. It discriminates in favor of the poor in making its exemptions. It exempts the only son of a widow, or of aged and infirm parents, in case they are poor; not otherwise. It exempts one, of two sons, of such widow or parents, as they may choose, provided they are poor; not otherwise. It exempts the brother of dependent children of tender age provided they are poor; not otherwise. It exempts the father of young motherless children provided he is poor; not otherwise. Thus to begin with, it exempts large numbers of the poor because they are poor, but in no case does it exempt a rich man because he is rich.

When the draft is made from the list after the exemptions have been struck off, it does not compel the poor man to go into the service if the lot falls upon him. It allows him the same chance to furnish a substitute which he would have if there was no commutation of \$300, and protects him from the combinations that would be formed by those who would speculate in the business of furnishing substitutes, and raise the price so enormously high, as to be beyond their means by saying, that no man need pay more than \$300, because for that sum, government will procure for him.

Thus the law as it stands is more beneficent to the poor man than it would have been if the draft had taken every man indiscriminately, and then compelled every conscript to go into the service, without substitute, or commutation as the following reasons will show.

1st. Take the country through, a great number are exempt because they are poor; not one because he is rich.

2d. If men in humble circumstances are drafted, they have the same rights to procure substitutes at the best advantage, that they would had no commutation been allowed, while the commutation clause aids them, by keeping down the prices of substitutes, and prevents that wholesale speculation which would place them beyond their means. The Government will procure one in any event for \$300.

3d. The law gives to many poor men who are not drafted the opportunity of securing the \$300 which many rich men will pay for their own commutation, an opportunity they could not have if all drafted men were compelled to enter the service in person.

4th. It gives to those not drafted, and to the families of drafted men uninterrupted employment by which they are accustomed to earn their daily bread. Many rich men are employers, large employers of the poor man, and of the wives and children of the poor, in those arts and manufactures by which they accumulate wealth. If the man who employs these persons is compelled to go into the service in person, all these poor persons are left without employment, and many of them without the means of subsistence, and must become a public charge. But if he can furnish a substitute or pay commutation his business will go on, and not only those employed, but the public reap the benefit. Look at the disasters that would follow the closing up of our banks, our manufactures of various kinds, if the few men who have the shrewdness and the energy to manage them were inexcusably subject to the draft. True, we should get a few indifferent soldiers, but a general crash in business would follow, and every morsel of bread the poor man put in his mouth would be exorbitantly high, and he have no means of obtaining it.

We insist upon it, that the man who commutes the \$300 commutation, because it discriminates against the poor man, is either deplorably ignorant, or willfully misinterprets the facts in the case. The law is eminently just and all its discriminations justify favor the poor man.

We are informed that an engagement has been made with Rev. Selden Gilbert, of Turner, to preach to the Universalist Societies in this place and Norway, for one year. He will reside in Norway and preach at each place one half of the day, holding a third service here on alternate Sabbaths. The engagement will commence on the first Sabbath in September. Mr. Gilbert is a recent graduate of Tufts College.

The Journal says the large coffer dam, built near the falls, at Lewiston, preparatory to building the new stone dam, was carried away Saturday. A new coffer dam will be built immediately.

Col. Beal has been ordered to send his men, as recruited, into camp at Augusta. As most of his men will probably go from the Western portion of the State this arrangement will prove very inconvenient. Several of the officers of the 10th, are filling up their companies, already.

Escape and Recapture of Prisoners.

Mr. Austin was somewhat surprised on Saturday morning, on visiting jail, to find the outer door open; and John Hale and Ephraim Gilman missing. An examination revealed the fact that Hale had escaped from his cell, and released Gilman, when the two opened the outer door by removing the screws which fastened the lock with a wooden wrench.

When the lower cells were enlarged by throwing two into one, the doors in the rear were fastened with iron bolts, in place of the locks formerly used. These were strong enough to resist any attempt to escape from the inside, which was all thought necessary. Of late the wet weather has made the cells very damp, and Gilman had the privilege of going into the entry way, which was in fact a third cell. It seems that he had taken advantage of the kindness and removed an iron wedge, fastening the opening in the slide where the food was passed in, substituting a round wooden pin, a piece of whip-staff that he had obtained. It was so near the color that the jailer did not detect the change, on shutting him up. By shaking the door this pin dropped down, and Hale then worked out the other fastenings and opened his door. The corresponding door opposite was opened in like manner. A stout wooden wrench served to take off the nuts which held the lock upon the outside door, it being applied by working in between the door and wall.

Allen was invited to take advantage of the open doors, but declined, much to his subsequent dissatisfaction, as we learn.

Sumner Burnham, Esq., was put upon the track, on Saturday morning; and he brought in Gilman, Monday morning, he having been taken by officer Maybury of Harrison, Saturday night, about ten o'clock.

Hale came in on Tuesday morning, having been taken about two o'clock that morning by Daniel C. Smith of Naples. Both these men were acting under the direction of Mr. Burnham.

It appears that after escaping they went immediately to Harrison, by the stage road. They separated at South Paris; but Gilman lost the way, and returning came up with Hale. Saturday was spent in a bough house, where they could observe what was going on in the road. Gilman left Saturday night, between nine and ten, and was arrested as above stated, shortly after, on the way to his father's in Fryeburg. Hale stopped at the camp, all day Saturday. He says he traveled some on Sunday and thinks the officers saw him. He went into a meadow, and commenced spreading hay, till they left, thinking he belonged on the place. Monday night he went to the house of a relative for some food, and information, but was seen on the way, and officers followed up immediately, and took him.

Hale had saved the surplus of his food for several days, so that he had "cooked rations" to last him for some time, when he left. Both prisoners say they had a hard time while absent, and paid dearly for the breath of fresh air obtained.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN? A correspondent of the New York Post says that the 10th Maine Regiment has proposed to the city authorities of Baltimore to recruit its ranks at home, up to the standard, and go into the field as a Maryland regiment, if Baltimore will grant them a bounty, and after the war the survivors will settle in that State. [Bangor Courier.]

It seems precisely this, Mr. Courier. The people of Baltimore, who thoroughly appreciate Col. Beal's military ability as well as gentlemanly qualities, offered \$500 per man, if he would raise a regiment at large, to be mustered in at Baltimore, and go out as a Maryland regiment. The men were ready at a word from the Colonel; but he preferred a different service, and has been unsuccessfully attempting all this season, to obtain leave to raise a regiment in Maine.

We hear that John Dorr, who has figured on the criminal docket in this County, enlisted at Lewiston, as a substitute, last week, and escaped after receiving the bounty. He left within twenty minutes after the money was in his pocket.

ESTOPPED. In a divorce case, on the docket for trial next term, both of the parties are deceased.

S. J. CORRY. The August term will be held on Tuesday next. Judge KENT, we understand, will be present. The docket contains fewer cases than usual, and there is a prospect of a small number of new entries.

Considerable discussion has been caused by an article in a Canadian paper, which asserted that the common pitcher plant of our swamps was a certain cure for the small pox. The Agriculturist says it has been proved upon trial to have little if any effect.

At the Agricultural strawberry exhibition in New York, a variety was exhibited, of which fifteen berries weighed a pound. It has been named the Agriculturist strawberry,—the proprietor of that journal having secured all the plants, for free distribution to all who receive his journal in 1864.

It is stated that President Lincoln is about to make a quiet visit to the White Mountains, to obtain a short rest from his official cares.

Rebel papers say Gen. Dow has been sent to Mobile.

DIED, in Hiram, June 14th, Dea. Eph. Kimball, aged 77 years, 2 months and 14 days. A few facts in the life of this good man may not be uninteresting. He was born in the present town of Farmington N. H., Feb. 20th, 1786. He was the seventh child and the third son of a family of ten children. He moved into this town in 1810 having a wife and one son, Essom, now living in Albany in this county. He commenced felling trees for a farm, living with a Mr. Soper during the time occupied in making a "clearing" and erecting a small house. His facilities for obtaining an education were such as all children enjoyed at that time, but he devoted himself to his studies most assiduously and thereby acquired a good, practical education which laid the foundation for a life of usefulness. Never gifted by nature with a powerful physical organization still he performed a great amount of labor, adopting the old adage, "Slow and steady wins the race." He early became interested in all questions relating to moral reform. The organization of the first Temperance Society in this town is, in a great measure to be attributed to his efforts. The Congregational church was organized in 1826, and to his suggestions and instrumentalities belongs the credit of carrying it through its subsequent vicissitudes and struggles. He held the office of Deacon fourteen years, when he declined serving any longer. He may truly be styled the Father of the Sabbath School here for he originated it and has done more to sustain it than any other individual and perhaps we may say, than all others. Many years ago, amid much opposition and reproach he advocated strong anti-slavery principles and has often remarked during the last two years that his views on that subject has never changed, firmly and religiously believing that nations as well as individuals cannot do wrong with impunity. He was eminently benevolent. Many a poor man has applied to Deacon Kimball for help, when every other resource had failed and never was he compelled to go away empty. When disease or death had committed its ravages upon any of the families of his neighborhood, his presence, his advice and counsel, his words of encouragement and sympathy were never wanting. Many sick rooms have been enlivened by his presence; many a desponding invalid has been cheered by his conversation and many an unfortunate individual has been encouraged by his recommendations. Rev. Albert Cole of Cornish preached a funeral sermon from Phil. 1, 21.

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. His subject was living and dying properly. He urged with his accustomed ability the importance of the subject and labored to awaken a holy ambition in the minds of his hearers, to follow in the footsteps of the deceased. It was an occasion of much interest and no doubt his excellent advice will meet a cordial approval and do much good. It can truly be said: "Well done good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, enter thou into the joys of thy Lord." Com.

Veteran Volunteers.

In accordance with instructions from the War Department, Gen. Hoxedon has issued a General Order for raising three regiments of Veteran Volunteer Infantry and one Battery Veteran Volunteer Artillery to serve for three years or during the war. All able bodied men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, who have heretofore been enlisted and have served for not less than nine months and can pass the examination required by the mastering regulations of the United States, and no others, will be received. Every volunteer enlisted and mustered into service as Veteran will be entitled to one month's pay in advance and a bounty and premium of four hundred and two dollars to be paid as follows:

One month's pay upon being mustered into service,	\$13 00
First instalment of bounty,	25 00
Premium,	2 00
Total payment on muster,	\$40 00
At first regular pay day, or two months after mustering, an additional instalment of bounty of,	\$50 00
At first regular pay day, after six months service, an additional instalment of bounty of,	\$50 00
At first regular pay day after the end of the first year's service, an additional instalment of bounty of,	\$50 00
At first regular pay day after eighteen months service, an additional instalment of bounty of,	\$50 00
At first regular pay day after two years service, an additional instalment of bounty of,	\$50 00
At first regular pay day after two and a half years service, an additional instalment of bounty of,	\$50 00
At the expiration of three years' service, the remainder of the bounty will be paid	\$75 00

If the Government shall not require these troops for the full period of three years and they shall be honorably mustered out of service before their term of enlistment expires, they shall receive the whole amount of bounty remaining unpaid. The legal heirs of volunteers who die in the service shall be entitled to receive the whole amount of bounty remaining unpaid at the time of the soldier's death.

Veteran Volunteers will be permitted to enter old regiments now in service if they desire, but their term of service will continue for the term of their own enlistment. New organizations will be offered only by persons who have been in the service and who have shown themselves properly qualified for command. A badge of honorable distinction "service chevrons" will be furnished by the War Department, to be worn by the Veteran Volunteers.

Officers whose term of service have expired may be authorized by the Governor to raise companies and regiments within 60 days, and if the company or regiment shall be filled up and mustered into service within said 60 days, the officers may be recommended of the date of their original commissions and be entitled to receive pay according to their rank while recruiting.

INTERESTING CEREMONY.—COPPERHEAD DISCIPLINE. We understand that the copperhead caucus, held last Saturday, at the town house, had something of an interruption, in consequence of the attempt of a democrat who supports the war, to vote for delegates. Two tickets were run,—“Parris” and “anti-Parris.” The first bore the names of S. R. Carter, J. R. Hutchinson, A. P. Andrews, Rob. Dean, S. Briggs, jr. The second, Alvah Black, Charles Tucker, Rob. Dean, Sylvanus Porter, Simon Cummings.

There is not a copper's difference in the men, and probably the only feeling against the first ticket, was in consequence of its being selected by Parris. After the halloing had commenced, Mr. Sidney Farrar, a returned volunteer, and a man who has always voted the Democratic ticket, attempted to deposit a ticket bearing the second set of names. His vote was challenged by John R. Hutchinson. Upon that Alfred Andrews, moved that before voting, Mr. Farrar should be required to pledge himself in advance to support the candidate nominated. Mr. Farrar said he was a democrat, had always been one, and if the convention should nominate such a man as Daniel S. Dickinson, Gen. B. F. Butler, Gen. Logan, or any man who sustained the government, he would give him a most hearty support.

After this catechism, the question was put whether Mr. Farrar should be allowed a vote in the caucus, and decided in the negative, 11 to 7.

After the formal "voting out" some other democrats present made no attempt to vote. Mr. Farrar says that having ascertained that none but a traitor to his country could be permitted to vote in that caucus, he was quite willing to be denied the privilege.

Rape. We learn that a rape was committed on Fore Street, in Oxford, on Saturday evening, 25th ult., upon the person of a maiden lady, aged 69 years, who resides alone. The assaulting party is supposed to be a man who has worked in a brick yard near by, during the season, who belongs in Cumberland County. The lady was badly injured in the assault, so that fears are entertained that she may not recover.

In the present scarcity of farm laborers, the value of machinery is appreciated. We have lately conversed with several farmers who would have been able, but for the unfavorable season, to cut all their crop, with much less than the usual complement of men. Mowing machines and horse rakes, with horse pitchforks, lighten the labor amazingly.

We learn that the Attorney General has published a full report of the trial of Gilman, for the murder of Mrs. Swan. The volume will contain all the testimony, with the arguments, the bill of exceptions with the arguments before the law court, and the opinion. Engravings have been made of the letters introduced. Copies may be obtained next week of Mr. Drummond, who will be at court.

The Press learns that a beautiful National flag, presented by the pupils, was raised upon the Seminary, Gorham, on Friday last. It was presented graciously, with a neat little speech by Miss Persis N. Andrews; and was at once raised upon a staff erected upon the roof of the building, by three young ladies connected with the school. Heavy cheers were given as the beautiful ensign was raised.

EDITORIAL CHANGE. Mr. S. L. Boardman, who, for the past year, has been engaged as assistant editor of the Maine Farmer, has closed his connection with that paper. Private business is the reason given for the change. Mr. Geo. E. Brackett of Bethel, is his successor. Mr. B. has become widely known as a practical and intelligent writer on agriculture, education and natural history, and will be a valuable acquisition to the readers of the paper.

Conscripted men will observe the notice of the Board of Enrollment. The large amount of business before the Board makes it necessary to dispose of the Androscoggin and Franklin men before ours go in. In the first district the time has been extended.

Gov. Andrew of Massachusetts has issued a proclamation urging an observance of the National Thanksgiving. He says: "Respect for the President and faith in an ever-ruling Providence should prompt to a general observance of the day as possible."

The Chaplain of McKim's Hospital, Baltimore, writes that Charles H. Twitchell, of Paris, wounded in the battle of Gettysburg, has had his right arm amputated above the wrist. He was wounded in the left arm at the elbow. There were also slight wounds in the back and foot, that are nearly healed. He has the best of care, and there is probability of his speedy recovery.

Charles Knapp of Randolph, wounded at Gettysburg, narrowly escaped a mortal wound. He was ramming a cartridge, the gun directly before him, when the barrel was struck by a bullet, and was completely crushed. In stooping to reach another gun he was wounded in the arm.

Dr. Lord, President of Dartmouth College has resigned. It seems to have been brought about by the Trustees, who at a late meeting adopted patriotic resolutions, in which it was intimated that the prosperity of the college would be promoted by a change of the Presidency. A successor will be elected who sympathizes with the government.

Proclamation of President Lincoln.

WASHINGTON July 31st 1863. General Order No. 233. The following order of the President is published for the information and government of all concerned:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Washington, July 30th.

It is the duty of every Government to give protection to its citizens of whatever class, color or condition, and especially to those who are duly organized as soldiers in the public service. The law of nations, and the usages and customs, of war as carried on by civilized powers, permit no distinction as to color in the treatment of prisoners of war as public enemies: to sell or enslave any captured prisoner on account of his color, and for an offence against the laws of war, is a relapse into barbarism and a crime against the civilization of the age. The Government of the United States will give the same protection to all its soldiers, and if the enemy shall sell or enslave any one because of his color the offence shall be punished by retaliation between the enemy's prisoners in our possession.

It is therefore ordered that for every soldier of the United States killed in violation of the laws of war a rebel soldier shall be executed, and for every one enslaved by the enemy or sold into slavery a rebel soldier shall be placed at hard labor on the public works and continued at such labor until the other shall be released and receive the treatment due a prisoner of war.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
By order of the Secretary of War.
E. D. TOWNSEND, Asst. Adj. Gen.

Gen. Shepley arrived home on a short visit from New Orleans, on Saturday. He visited Bethel, where his family is spending the summer, on Monday. In the evening some two or three hundred people, assembled in front of the hotel, to pay their respects. Gen. S. appeared upon the balcony and spoke for three-fourths of an hour. He reviewed the condition of the country, showing there was every ground for confidence that the rebellion would be crushed. If the North were as united as the South, it would be put down in a month. He begged the whole people to give a hearty support to the government. His remarks and allusions to the honored sons of Maine who have fallen, drew enthusiastic and repeated cheers.

The Bangor Whig says that Mr. H. M. Prentiss of that city and Richard A. Derby of Boston, students at Cambridge, arrived there Tuesday evening in a couple of wherries, which they had rowed every inch of the way from Boston to Bangor. They followed the coast, making the distance rowed something over three hundred miles. Notwithstanding bad weather and fogs, they made their journey in twelve days, rowing from Camden to Bangor, fifty miles the last day.

The copperhead County Convention is to be held at the Court House, on Friday of this week.

The Democrat is issued a day earlier than usual this week, that the compositors may observe the National thanksgiving.

Under a recent decision of the Secretary of War, colored men will be received as substitutes.

We picked on Tuesday, some ripe tomatoes, from vines procured from Mr. Holt, last spring.

Col. Cyrus Henshaw came home in the last New Orleans steamer. He brought the remains of his wife, who died very suddenly at New Orleans.

The Maine nine months regiments that were at New Orleans, came up the Mississippi river, on their way home. Gen. Banks told them on going out they would return by a different route.

The English and Japan troubles have been settled. Japan pays four hundred and forty thousand dollars.

A man was arrested in Portland, last week, for passing counterfeit on the City Bank, Lyon.

It is said that greenbacks, 15 altered to 100, are in circulation.

The Courier states that Dr. Tewksbury, who has held the position of post surgeon at Fort Preble for the past two years, has been removed.

The third Congressional Society of Biddeford are about to erect a new and elegant church.

In Camden, on Thursday last, an insane man named Thomas Ames, was found dead in the road, near Rockport village.

The Saco Water Power Co., has declared a dividend of \$20 per share.

The Farmington Chronicle publishes the statement of the officer driven from Kingfield, where he had gone to deliver the notice to drafted men. His description shows the gathering to have been anything but a joke. The mob said it would be death to him or any other man who attempted to serve them.

Camp for Conscriptors. Mackie's Island has been selected as the place for the camp for the conscripts under the late draft in this State. The steamer Hester is engaged to convey them thither, and will commence to-day. It is a charming place for a camp, and we have no doubt the soldiers will think so when everything is arranged there, which will be done in a very short time. [Press.]

