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The Waterville Mail (Vol. 17, No. 25): December 25, 1863

Maxham & Wing

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breathe—when I beheld her radiant in this glorious bloom of lustrous loveliness, which angelic sweetness might envy but not eclipse—before which the star on the brow of night grows pale, and the diamond of Brazil is dim—and then reflect upon the utter madness and folly of supposing that so much beauty would expose itself to the terrors of an empty building in the cold, damp dead of night, when innocence like hers is hiding itself amid snowy pillows of repose; gentlemen of the jury, my feelings are too overpowering for expression, and I throw my arms for protection against the foul charge which the outrageous malice of a disappointed scoundrel has invented to blast the fair name of this lovely maiden whose smiles shall be the reward of the verdict which I know you will give!

The jury acquitted her without leaving their seats.

Waterville Mail.

EPH. MAXHAM, DAN'L R. WING,
EDITORS.

WATERVILLE . . . DEC. 25, 1863.



AGENTS FOR THE MAIL.

S. M. PATTENBURY & CO., Newspaper Agents, No. 10 State street, Boston, and 37 Park Row, New York, are Agents for the Waterville Mail, and are authorized to receive advertisements and subscriptions, at the same rates as required at this office.

S. H. NILES, Newspaper Advertising Agent, No. 1 Scollay Building, Court street, Boston, is authorized to receive advertisements at the same rates as required by us.

Advertisements abroad are referred to the agents named above.

ALL LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS.
Relating to the business or editorial departments of this paper, should be addressed to "Maxham & Wing," or "Waterville Mail Office."

NOTICE!—We are finally compelled by the rise of paper, as well as of everything else used in printing or by printers, to raise the price of the MAIL. After the first day of January it will be \$2.00 a year. We are willing to do as we are done by, when we can. Even at this price, we have added only one-half the rise in everything else, and not one-third of the rise in paper. Certainly none of our subscribers will complain—and all who have been consulted have advised this course. Men are mutually generous when money is plenty; and as we cheerfully give the ruling high prices, we promise as cheerfully to receive them.

Till the first day of January, the former price will be received for a year, whether past, present or future. So there is time for such as would economize, to do so, and at the same time to receive our thanks and our "Happy New Year."

We must not omit this opportunity to extend a warm expression of our thanks to our patrons generally. They have met our efforts with marked kindness, so that we have reason to hope that the rule of "live and let live" may embrace us as well as them. Our friends who pay in advance are growing more numerous, so that our hearts are often moved with the sensation of gratitude; while an increase of advertising gives us assurance that our neighbors are rising in the scale of prosperity. Our list is increasing—as it must continue to do, if we continue our gratitude, so that our thanks are earnest and sincere in proportion as our patrons promise to be permanent and liberal. In return for these encouragements—for we believe in "quid pro quo"—we promise our best efforts to increase the value of our paper. As a prelude of our liberal intentions, we wish every man, woman and child who reads the Mail a "Merry Christmas."

GOOD TIMES, with the sanction of Santa Claus, are to be had in connection with Christmas, all around us. At Benton they have a Union tree, and levy a commission upon each present, to go to the Christian Commission. None but vigilant Unionists would have devised this plan, and the loyal men and women of Benton have been qualified by the most reasonable and bitter opposition. At Winslow they meet for social greetings at the house of Rev. Mr. Dinsmore. In Waterville, the Congregational society entertain the juveniles with a Tree in the afternoon, and the adults with refreshments and other agreeable exercises in the evening, at their church. The Unitarian society had arranged to meet at the house of their pastor, Rev. Dr. Sheldon, for a social visit; but his unexpected absence has rendered an adjournment necessary.

JUST OUT OF THE WOODS. We are gratified to learn from the Lewiston Journal that the venerable old custom, so long and so well established in all other parts of New England, of making the Christmas Tree a family visitor, is about to manifest itself in that city. The Journal thinks it "a German habit." It must have come to Lewiston "round the Cape." The little folks away up in Vermont, and away down East used to have great times gathering the fruit of the family Christmas tree a few generations ago. We wish the pleasant old evergreen much joy of its first acquaintance in Lewiston. It is probably its last chance of finding itself a stranger, without going back to Germany, which must be a long way from Lewiston.

ON FLEETFOOT.—We are happy to hear (and should be happier to see) that several of "Our Boys" of the army are at home for a short visit. They seem in fine health and spirits and don't look as though they suffered in the direction of rations. Among them are Col. H. M. Plaisted, of the 11th Maine; Adjutant Haskell,

of the 19th; Nathaniel Perley, of Co. G, 3d; 1st Sergt. Charles Shorey, Co. A, 20th; Lieut. Chs. Low, Co. G, 3d.

Talk About Winslow.

[A friend, to whom we applied for some facts in the early history of Winslow, sends us the following communication, which we know will be read with interest. We shall be pleased to have him continue his "Talk," as he promises, and we wish that all who have anything of this nature to offer, either in relation to the early history of Winslow, Waterville, or any neighboring towns, would forward it to us.]

The eagle soaring from his mountain eyry, and, passing in his flight over villages and country towns, little thinks that his great grandmother, or more distant ancestor, sat here on a projecting crag, or there on the limb of a dead tree, watching the sprightly gambols of the rabbit before he pounced upon it, making a luxurious meal for the young eaglets far up the mountain side; neither does the captured moose exhibited at the state metropolis realize that in those sluggish pools his progenitors fed upon the lily-pads growing luxuriantly! The present they behold! The past is all unknown! 'Tis man who writes the history, and man alone profits by it!

I like to think of the history of Winslow, so far as I am acquainted with it, and it is not impossible but many of the readers of the Mail will also like to think of the same and become better acquainted with it. I do not intend to write a history of Winslow, but in a few short letters will mention many things of interest in relation to the town. Important events took place at Fort Halifax many years prior to the date at which I will commence; yet I will pass over them at this time as they were published in the Mail a few years since.

I will invite your readers to go back 97 years, to 1766; as it was at that time a company was formed in Massachusetts, known as "proprietors" of a tract of land around Fort Halifax—granted by the "Plymouth company" to the following gentlemen: Gamaliel Bradford, Esq., James Otis, Esq., John Winslow, Esq., William Taylor, Esq., Daniel Howard, Esq., and James Warren, Esq.—containing 18,200 acres except 1000 acres around Fort Halifax (that being private property). This tract lies on the easterly side of the Kennebec river and is five miles and twenty-eight poles measuring on the shore and runs east five miles, making the tract nearly square.

If we go back to the date of their deed we find a nameless township and an almost pathless wilderness. True, man had made his mark—civilized man! Fort Halifax had been built on the Point; two block-houses stood near the Fort, and the barracks on the hill where the graveyard now is. A few inhabitants occupied the Fort and filled what was a few years before an Indian cornfield. Even then the birch canoe darted through the still waters of the Sebasticook—driven like a thing of life by the muscular Indian, or lazily paddled through the Kennebec. Mills of any kind were unknown. The township must have been heavily timbered with Pine (judging from the stumps) a great deal of which was cut and sold when it was worth less than \$5 per thousand feet. Henlock abounded over a large part of the town, which was cut chiefly for the bark, though much was cut and burned by the early settlers in clearing the land. Oak to considerable amount was also found, and interspersed with the former were birch, maple, ash, spruce and cedar. The town is well watered by the Kennebec river running its whole length, and the Sebasticook, its tributary, running a south westerly course, nearly three miles. The "Mile Brook," tributary to the latter, runs north nearly as far. Another stream of considerable size empties into the Sebasticook in the north part of the town, being the outlet of Patee's pond, a fine sheet of water in the center of the town. Two lesser streams are in the east part of the town, each being occupied by saw mills and other machinery. The soil on the rivers and Mile Brook is good, being equal to any in Maine. Good farms are found in other parts of the town, though much harder to work and less productive. Much of the land away from the streams is either of a slate or granite formation. Slate ledge abounds to considerable extent. In the easterly part of the town there are several large bogs or swamps, skirted with cedar. The central portion is hilly, while the extremes are tolerably level.

In the above I have shown the shape and size of the town of Winslow, and as far as I can its appearance 97 years ago, also some of the leading natural features of the same, also that the tract was purchased of the Plymouth company by six proprietors, whose names I have given. This, I think, will do for the commencement of a talk about Winslow. In my next, I will show how it was settled, the inducements offered to settlers by the proprietors, etc., and will give the names of a part of the first settlers, describing the farms on which they settled.

At the annual election of Waterville Lodge the following named persons were elected officers for the ensuing year:

F. W. Knight, W. M.
N. Meader, S. W.
J. Meader, J. W.
G. L. Robinson, T.
E. F. Webb, Sec'y.
C. H. Alden, S. S.
J. R. Pitman, J. D.
H. H. Eames, Ty.
A. J. Alden, S. S.
C. A. Farrington, J. S.
Rev. W. A. P. Dillingham, Chaplain.

MEXICAN NEWS. The New Orleans Picayune, good authority on Mexican affairs, says the Mexican force occupying Puebla is five thousand men, and will be increased. Gen. Comonfort had become tired of awaiting an attack from the French, and was marching from Queretaro on Mexico, at the head of twenty thousand men. He is well supplied with munitions of war and artillery. The roads are generally in possession of guerrillas, and

French supplies can only be carried forward under heavy escort.

DEATH OF COL. SHURTLEFF.—Col. Jonas B. Shurtleff died at his residence in Winslow, of pneumonia, on Monday morning last, at the age of 58 years. He was formerly known as an editor, and somewhat actively engaged in political life, in the State of Pennsylvania. He always acted with the democratic party till the nomination of Mr. Buchanan, whom he said he knew too intimately to have any faith in him; and he has since acted earnestly with the republicans, especially in support of the war. He was a genial, social man, living closely to his religious faith in a correct life under the rule of doing as he would be done by. As the author of a popular school book, "The Governmental Instructor," and in the various pursuits of an active and useful life, he was extensively known, and had many warm and well cherished friends. He contemplated the new life upon which he has now entered without fear, and in confidence that he should find it a sphere of enjoyments, duties and hopes, where, as here, virtue shall secure its own rewards and vice its natural and inevitable penalties. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and was buried with their ceremonies by Waterville Lodge.

As striking evidence, if any were needed, of the uncertainty of life, the following report has been passed to the Lodge since the decease of Col. S., by whose sickness it had been delayed. How pointedly it suggests reciprocal kindness, especially under the bonds of that fraternity!

The Committee appointed at the last regular communication to prepare appropriate expressions of our respect for the memory of deceased brothers, beg leave to report that:

WHEREAS we have received intelligence of the death of our much respected brother, Capt. Chas. W. Billings, of Clinton, and Orderly Sergeant Benj. F. Dunbar, of Winslow, who readily answered their country's call for aid in defending our liberties against a gigantic rebellion, and who fell in battle while discharging their patriotic duties, therefore,

Resolved, That in this dispensation of Providence it is our duty to mark our appreciation of the heroic conduct of our gallant brethren; and while reminded by these events of our mortality, and admonished of our duty to be prepared to meet the summons of death, we esteem it fortunate for the memory of our departed brothers that they faced dangers as became true soldiers and fell in honorable warfare in their country's service.

Resolved, That we will remember the virtues of our lamented brothers in the character of friendship and esteem, trusting that in honoring their associations on earth they may find rest in that celestial Lodge above, where the clamors of war will no more break upon their ears, nor the sorrows of this life disturb their peaceful breasts.

Resolved, That we tender to the families of the deceased our most heartfelt sympathies, praying that he who has so deeply afflicted may comfort and sustain them in their great bereavements.

Resolved, That these testimonials be placed upon the records of the Lodge, and copies of the same sent to the respective families of the deceased. J. B. SHURTLEFF, for Com.

THE CHESAPEAKE.—This vessel was recaptured in Sombro Harbor, 20 miles from Halifax, on the 16th, by the gunboat *Ellie* and *Annie*, all but three of the crew escaping. Having been seized in British waters, she was taken to Halifax and surrendered to the authorities—the prisoners being rescued from the provincial authorities by secession sympathizers after they were landed. There is work for diplomatists in the circumstances connected with this affair.

The following is Mr. Johnson's (1st engineer) statement:

After we left St. John, the first port we entered was Shelburne, where we arrived on the night of Thursday; took aboard ten tons of coal and some wood, and left next morning for Lehigh river; saw a steamer off mouth of the river; concealed the vessel, and ascended the river Friday night; lay there until Tuesday discharging part of the cargo, for which we received \$1000, selling sugar at 3 cents per lb. flour \$3 per barrel, and other articles in proportion. Left the river at 3 P.M. laying at the mouth all night loading a schooner with the stolen goods; on the morning of Wednesday steamed for St. Mary's Bay, about ninety miles east of Halifax; about 9 A.M. saw a steamer, and immediately concealed the vessel by hugging the shore; when the steamer disappeared we started again. When off Sombro, pilot Flynn boarded and took the vessel into Sombro harbor; Capt. Locke satisfying himself that he had not coal enough to complete a voyage, he anchored about 2 P.M., and immediately started for Halifax for coal and engineers, intending to release Mr. Johnson, who told him he would not stay by the vessel; the captain returned successfully about 2 A.M. in a schooner with coal and engineers. About 6 A.M. Flynn informed the captain that a gunboat was entering the harbor: satisfying himself of the fact, he asked Johnson to scuttle the vessel, who replied that he could not do it; hastily securing what plunder he could, he took to the boat and the *Ellie* and *Annie* appeared in sight.

To-day at 1 P.M. the Chesapeake and prisoners were delivered to government, at Queen's wharf, where a crowd assembled. The prisoners in leaving the steamer's boat were seized by a boat's crew in the slip, and upon an officer moving to arrest them under a warrant, he was seized and held by prominent citizens. The persons who seized the prisoners succeeded in getting them on board a boat, which immediately moved down the bay. The affair causes great excitement. What course the authorities will now pursue is unknown. The pirates are all at liberty, scattered throughout the provinces.

DAILY LEGISLATIVE PAPER.—We know that all good loyal men, interested in the proceedings of the Maine Legislature will rejoice to learn that the proprietors of the *Kennebec Journal* have concluded to issue a daily, instead of a thrice-weekly, this winter. They will be relieved from the necessity of contributing to the support of a bitter and unscrupulous opponent of the administration and the war, in order to secure a daily report of legislative proceedings.

Rev. Mr. Dike, of the New Jerusalem church, at Bath, will preach at Town Hall on Sunday next—Dr. Sheldon being called away by the sickness of his father, in Massachusetts.

[We copy the following poem as a fitting accompaniment to the sewing machine advertisements in our paper, and our readers can turn to them when they have finished.]

A NEW SONG OF THE SHIRT.

[NOT BY MOOD.]

With fingers slender and white,
With face of pleasant mien,
A woman sat in most womanly garb,
Plying her sewing machine.

Click! click! click!
Feet, fingers, and eyes all alert,
And thus in a voice of the cheerfulness pitch,
She sang a new "Song of the Shirt."

Click! click! click!
While the sun is shining bright,
But not a single click
By weary candle-light.

Sunshine and gladness abroad,
Gladness and comfort within,
Peace in my heart, and enough at my board,
To share with my neighbors and kin.

Click! click! click!
(The tension is perfectly right)—
What more are my eyes to see?
Where I calmly sleep at night—
This whole snug room—a carpeted floor—
A sofa and easy chair—
And a wall that I love for the shadows of friends
Which are constantly falling there.

Click! click! click!
An hour or two at a time!
Click! click! click!
It saves me my eyes!
I stitch my gussets and bands
Till I feel the want of rest!
And then go forth to breathe pure air,
God's freest gift and best!

I have time to climb the hills,
And feast my eyes with the sight
Of sea beyond, and vales beneath,
Bathed in the generous light,
Or I walk on the shore and see the mist
Roll through the Gate from sea,
And I breathe in from the ocean's strife,
And the winds' fierce revelry.

Ah, men, with sisters dear!
Ah, men, with mothers and wives!
If you have not bought them sewing machines
Do it and gladden their lives!
Wheeler & Wilson and Ladd,
Singer and Grover & Co.,
No matter which, all of them stitch
Better than hand can sew.

With fingers slender and white,
With face of pleasant mien,
A woman sat in most womanly garb,
Plying her sewing machine.

Click! click! click!
Feet, fingers, and eyes all alert,
And thus in a voice of the cheerfulness pitch,
She sang this new "Song of the Shirt."

War of Redemption.

All is necessarily quiet with the army of the Potomac, owing to the state of the weather and travelling, and the opportunity is improved to allow many of the soldiers to go home on short furloughs. There has been a rumor that Lee, having been reinforced, was to do awful work in a raid north, but nobody was alarmed, we believe. The story that Gen. French had been relieved of his command and placed under arrest, for misconduct at Mine Run, is contradicted. The probable number of veteran re-enlistments in this department is set at 10,000.

During the recent gale, the famous floating battery in Charleston harbor, used by the rebels in the reduction of Fort Sumter, broke loose and dashed through the obstructions, damaging them so much that it is thought our vessels can make their way in. The rebels have a story that our monitors, in an attempt to enter, were fouled so that several of them had to be abandoned, but nobody believes it.

Gen. Corcoran, of the Irish Brigade, died recently, of injuries inflicted by a fall from his horse.

There has been some fighting between Longstreet and his pursuers, and more is soon expected.

Immense Union meetings have been held in Arkansas, endorsing the course of the administration.

There is a report that Lee is to be sent to command the army opposed to Grant, but it may be a canard.

POOR OLD CREATURE!—It is reported that there is an old maid up in Skowhegan who has waited so long for a husband that she has offered to marry any good looking young man who may venture to return from Canada, after the draft! If she don't "get taken" at this bid she threatens to propose to Jeff! Lor' sakes! to want a husband so! O for the good old time, when any unfortunate young gentleman who could not skeddadle from the gallows might be pardoned by an offer of marriage!

OUR QUOTA.—When our citizens got together and voted two hundred dollars for every volunteer, with a liberal allowance for expenses of recruiting, they supposed they had secured themselves from any visitation of the draft; but the sharp competition among the towns has defeated the project. We have forty-eight men to raise, of which number only fourteen have been secured, with six or eight more in dispute. The draft must come.

A NICE PORKER.—Mr. L. E. Crommett, of our village, recently killed a spring pig; a week less than eight months old, which weighed 880 lbs. Has any one done better?

Rev. Mr. Dillingham, our representative elect to the legislature, will address the Union League at Town Hall on Saturday evening, to-morrow. His late visit to New Orleans is the occasion of an invitation from his fellow citizens to tell them what he saw and heard in the valley of the Mississippi.

Col. Hix, one of the gallant soldiers of Kentucky, made an eloquent address before the Union League on Tuesday evening—a large and intelligent audience being present.

We are pleased to see that some of the citizens of Augusta are arousing to the evils of intemperance in their midst. The Sons of Temperance have arranged for weekly public meetings, and the *Banner* has a bold, outspoken article, urging the people of that city to do something for the protection of the soldiers quartered in their midst, many of whom are falling victims to the arts of the rum-sellers.

Another "Pickings and Stealings." Mr. "Licurgus" (which we guess means lawyer) is too late for this week. "Smith" has roused a lion at last.

Good sleighing is making lively times and a merry Christmas, in which everybody seems to have an interest.

Mr. [Reuben Simpson, of Winslow, has boards on his barn that were sawed at Fort Point with a whip-saw, at the time Fort Halifax was built. They are still in a good state of preservation.

CATTLE MARKETS.—The number of cattle and sheep at market was about the same as the previous week. Of the cattle from Maine, Wells & Hight drove 91; J. J. Holbrook 18; Daniel Wells 21. Of the market on Tuesday, the *New England Farmer* says:—

"The cattle trade was slow, and dull, and dragging, all the forenoon. We will try to illustrate the difference between the aspect of business this week and last, by comparing the butchers, last week, to a set of men gathered about a table spread with a scanty allowance, after having left home before breakfast, hungry as bears; and the same men, this week, a little sick at the stomach, at the same table, 'groining' beneath a great load of rather 'hard tack.' The butchers represent the city beef market as very hard, at 1-2 cent per lb. decrease in price. The weather has been warm, beef high, the supply very large, and folks won't buy. Beside the large numbers of live stock thrown upon the market during the last two weeks, the government packers and canners in Maine have sent considerable dressed meat to Boston. One boat this week brought up 75 hindquarters, besides lots of mutton, &c."

At Brighton, on Wednesday, too, the market was dull. Says the *Farmer*—

"With so many cattle in the yards we have never seen business so near a standstill. The drovers complain of the prices offered by the few butchers present, and the butchers, with good reason, complain of the quality of the cattle. The Western, in particular, look as if they had been left out in the cold all the Fall and Winter. Last week there were many good oxen at market, and we heard old butchers advising others to buy freely, as such an other opportunity, in all probability, would not occur again this year. This advice was acted on so generally, that the unexpectedly large stock of this week cannot be sold without the inducement of lower prices—and not all, even by that means. Drovers who usually dispose of their stock in the fore part of the first day, were paching their yards at sundown to-day. Mr. C. H. Bailey sold 8 of his best oxen at Cambridge, for 8 1-4 cts. per lb. and had peddled out others singly as best he could, but as we understood had some 40 unsold. N. Batchelder did guard duty all day and sold 10 oxen for 7 1-2 cts. per lb., amounting to \$10 less than home cost. O. E. Taylor sold 1 pr. steers, laid at 1500 lbs. for \$102, one pair, 1650 lbs., for \$116, and what he called an extra pair,—good for 8 1-2 cts. last week—for 8 cts., to kill and weigh. Somewhere from 500 to 700 we venture to guess as the number unsold at the close of business to-night. A Brighton butcher said he estimated the number of cattle unsold and in hands of butchers this morning, at not less than 3500, and then asked, what can be expected of us?"

Store cattle, also, were at a lower figure, and the drovers loud in their complaint of a dull market. Sheep and lambs, too, were dull.

First quality beefs are quoted at \$8.00 to \$8.50; second do, \$6.75 to \$7.75; third do, \$5.50 to \$6.50; extra \$8.75 to \$9.00. Working oxen, \$7.00 to \$1.50, or according to their value as beef. Stores—yearlings \$10 to \$15; two-year-olds, \$15 to \$30; three year-olds, \$35 to \$45. Sheep, 5 1-2 to 6 1-2 on live weight; in lots \$4 to \$6. Lambs, \$3.75 to \$4.25 each.

REMEMBER! the concert of Prof. Watson, the "American Paganini," assisted by his accomplished associates, at Town Hall, Tuesday evening next, 29th inst.

The great fight in England between Heenan and King, resulted in the defeat of Heenan, after a contest of 35 minutes—Heenan being severely punished.

FILES.—We refer to the advertisement of Westall Brothers, file cutters. Bring them all your old files and rasps, to be re-cut, and let their industry be a passport to your patronage.

FILE IT ON.—There is strong talk of putting a much heavier tax on liquors and tobacco. We sincerely hope it will be done, for it would diminish the consumption of these mischievous articles, and even compulsory abstinence, though not the best kind, is desirable.

The editor of the *Buffalo Courier* had an interview recently with a gentleman who has recently made a business tour through Canada, and spent some time in Montreal, from whom the following information was obtained:

We learn from him that the threatened rebel raid up the lake cities was not the canard many suppose it to be, but a carefully matured scheme, which failed through the bad faith of one of the conspirators. He derived his information from one of the number, and was introduced, when in Montreal, to several of the band. They were mostly southern refugees, organized by a rebel officer who came to Montreal with ample means to carry out the plan, which was to visit, at as nearly the same time as practicable, all the lake cities and destroy all the elevators and shipping. The object was not plunder, but to cripple the resources of the North. The leaders had accurate maps of every city, from Chicago to Oswego, showing the exact position of every elevator and warehouse and designating those which were especially doomed. Every elevator in this city was correctly mapped, even those not yet completed. The number of the band was stated to be from four to five hundred, and about fifty of them were in Montreal at the time our informant was there. In his opinion no plan was ever more carefully laid; and nothing but the exposure to the Canadian Government prevented its execution. Buffalonians owe a lasting debt of gratitude by the Canadian authorities for their promptness.

PEACE. One of the Woods has made a proposition in Congress to send commissioners to Richmond to treat for peace, which was promptly voted down. But what an idea!—The New York Tribune talks about right on the subject when it says:

"Washington City is the capital of this country in pursuance of the Federal Constitution. Messrs. Jefferson Davis, Benjamin Toombs, Slidell, Mason, &c., were all there barely three years ago, clothed with power to act for their respective States. They chose to abandon the forum for the field—to transfer their controversy with us from the arbitrament

of the Yeas and Nays to that of the sword. They went off to Richmond because they would not be further associated with us; and we are not going after them. They must dissolve and disperse their Sanhedrin of treason and let the States they have lured away, return to the ways of loyalty and peace. Let half a dozen run the blockade from Wilmington on the fastest steamer that leaves during some dark night and there would be peace in the land within a month. The rally of the people to the standard of the Union at Little Rock, and of those of Texas to the protecting flag of Gen. Banks, proves that the dissolution of the rebel Confederacy is already well begun. Copperhead demonstrations in Congress may impede, but will hardly arrest it.

COLORED SOLDIERS MURDERED BY THE REBELS. In June last, a company of colored soldiers, comprising a captain, first lieutenant and eighty men, were captured at Milliken's Bend, during the siege at Vicksburg, after a brave resistance. "Since their captivity," says the *New York Post*, "their fate has been involved in profound mystery. Nothing official could be learned of them, and from the well-known vindictiveness of the rebel military authorities the worst was apprehended. Information has been received at the War Department, by way of Texas, stating that these apprehensions were too well founded. It appears that the prisoners were conveyed into the country several miles and then were placed in close confinement. Not the least intimation of their fate was given them. After several days the two officers were taken out at dead of night, and the word given out that they had escaped. It now appears that they were hanged without previous notice or even a semblance of trial, in obedience to a secret order from the rebel Secretary of War. A few days afterward the other prisoners also disappeared mysteriously, and there is no doubt that they also were secretly murdered by direction of the Richmond authorities. What retaliation shall be inflicted for these most barbarous atrocities is yet to be determined.

SLAVERY.—Jeff. Davis in his message holds these words:

"Whatever obstinacy may be displayed by the enemy in his desperate sacrifices of money, life and liberty, in the hope of enslaving us, the experience of mankind has too conclusively shown the superior endurance of those who fight for home, liberty and independence, to permit any doubt of the result."

To this an exchange replies:

"It is indeed a calamity to be enslaved, and is the enslaver an evil doer? So argues the head man of the rebel confederacy? But can he or any one else tell why or how it is any worse to enslave Jeff. Davis than it was to enslave Fred. Douglas?"

INTERTEMPERANCE.—At a meeting in Lewiston on Sunday evening, Prof. Packard of Bowdoin College, who was present, stated that his experience of forty years in dealing with young men, had demonstrated that there was no other vice so much to be dreaded and which had made shipwreck of so many promising youths as intemperance. That experience had also shown that the young man who had taken the first glass was in terrible danger.

A letter from Chattanooga, dated 10th inst., says: Chattanooga presents a busy appearance, notwithstanding the rain is falling in torrents, and we are compelled to wade knee deep in mud. Regiments and brigades of the 14th corps are at work on the fortifications, putting them in a state of winter defense. All the forts are being strengthened, earthworks thrown up, and all the engineering skill of the army called into requisition to make the "Valley City" impregnable.

ENROLLED MEN.—The Lewiston Journal says that the Enrolling Board are examining men under their late order at the rate of about 150 per day. Men are exempted only for manifest disability, for non-residence, alienage or non age. Only a small fraction of those who present themselves find exemption, say not more than one tenth. Perhaps 1500 men have been examined the past ten days of whom not more than 150 have been exempted. The government thus sifting out the manifestly exempt will obtain more men from the next than it did from the last draft.

STATE RIGHTS.—Mr. Lovejoy has defined his position on the question of State rights and the existence of States. "I do not believe," said he, "strictly speaking, that there are any rebel States; I know that there are States which rebels have taken possession of and overthrown the legitimate governments for the time being; and I hold, with the gentleman from Maryland, (H. Winter Davis) as I understood him, that those governments still remain; and that as soon as we can get possession of them we will breathe into them the spirit of republican life—a free soul once again. I am for the Constitution as it is and the Union as it was. (Laughter.) Yes, I am for the Constitution as it is, and not as it has been interpreted falsely, and for the Union as it was before it was taken possession of by slaveholding tyrants, as the steamer Chesapeake recently has been. I want to dispossess the ship of her piratical crew, and to put in their place loyal men, to sail her as our forefathers sailed the old Union. That is what I want."

SAMBUCI WINE. Our druggists have just received a number of cases more of that excellent and harmless beverage, Speer's Sambuci Wine. Mr. Speer knows how to keep wine pure, and, of course, is worthy of public patronage. This wine has already become very popular, and seems to be gaining new friends daily.—[Portland Courier.]

Joseph Baker, Esq., of Augusta, has been nominated for Judge of the S. J. Court, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Judge Rice.

Parties of able-bodied rebels have for some time been passing through Woodstock, N. B., from Canada en route for Halifax. They have funds in plenty, and very large chests.

ENLISTMENTS. The 2d Maine Cavalry now numbers in camp 1100 enlisted men, of whom 747 have been mustered in and 7 companies organized. The 28th veteran volunteers is filled up to its maximum strength, and 674 have been mustered in. The 30th veteran volunteers has 800 enlisted men, 320 of whom have been mustered in. The 7th Maine Battery numbers 100 men in camp, and will probably be full in the course of the present week. The whole number of enlistments on the quota of this State is not far from 4000.

FROZEN TO DEATH. A Mrs. Vittum, an old lady nearly 70 years old, who has been partially deranged for some time past, left her house on Thursday and was found dead in a field in Concord, on Friday afternoon last.

The Farmer says a movement is being made by the two banks of Skowhegan to surrender their charters and organize under the National Banking Law.

Says the Manchester American. It is an uphill business to fight against your country in time of war. No party has done it, and lived.

