

ish good music, useful and entertaining and valuable reading, for all persons interested in choirs, sacred music, and the organ and melodeon—a class numerous enough, we should think, to support such a periodical. Mr. Zundel promises to give his readers, during the year, 48 pages of new music for the organ and melodeon, with a view to check the now prevailing frivolous operatic style too common in church service, and to make organ-playing what it ought to be—dignified and grand without heaviness, effective and cheerful without sentimentality. He will also give a complete new Instruction Book for the Melodeon or Harmonium, arranged upon a new plan. The Vocal department will embrace three branches, viz.: Music for Church Choirs, Music for Sunday-Schools, and Music for Social gatherings.

## Chronicles of the War.

### Latest News.

GEN. BURNSIDE has written a letter avowing his own exclusive responsibility for the battle of Fredericksburg, and declaring that, so far from having been compelled by the President and Gen. Halleck to move before he was ready, he actually moved sooner than they expected. He says: "For the failure of the attack I am responsible, as the extreme gallantry, courage and endurance shown by the men was never exceeded, and would have carried the points had it been possible. To the families and friends of the dead I can only offer my heartfelt sympathies, but for the wounded I can offer my earnest prayers for their comfort and final recovery. The fact that I decided to move from Warrenton on to this line, rather against the opinion of the President, Secretary of War, and yourself, and that you left the whole movement in my hands, without giving me orders, makes me the one responsible." This effectually disposes of the alsechods of the pro-slavery press.

The President has sent the following letter to the army of the Potomac:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Dec. 22, 1862.  
To the Army of the Potomac.

I have just read your Commanding General's preliminary report of the battle of Fredericksburg. Although you were not successful, the attempt was not an error, nor the failure other than an accident. The courage with which you, in an open field, maintained the contest against an entrenched foe, and the consummate skill and success with which you crossed and recrossed the river in the face of the enemy, show that you possess all the qualities of a great army, which will yet give victory to the cause of the country and of popular government. Consoling with the mourners for the dead, and sympathizing with the severely wounded, I congratulate you that the number of both is comparatively so small. I tender to you, officers and soldiers, the thanks of the nation.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Our losses in the battle of Fredericksburg are reported by Gen. Burnside thus: killed, 1,152; wounded, between 6,000 and 7,000, one half of whom are receiving treatment in the hospitals; prisoners, 700.

Gen. Foster's movement in North Carolina has been a complete success. He fought four engagements—the first at South West Creek, a short distance east of Kinston; the second at Kinston, where he took 500 prisoners and 11 pieces of artillery; the third at White Hill, not far from Goldsboro; and the fourth at Goldsboro—and in each of them the enemy was badly whipped. At Goldsboro, he burned the very important railroad bridge over the Neuse River, and subsequently another one further south, at Mount Olive. He also tore up several miles of the track of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. This road, running in almost a straight line from Richmond to Wilmington, carries probably nine-tenths of the travel and freight moved between South Carolina and Georgia and Virginia. By the break at Goldsboro, the rebels will be compelled to communicate with the South by the roundabout way of Raleigh, Salisbury, Charlotte and Columbia. Another successful blow at Weldon and the little cross-road at Gaston, a few miles west, would effectually sever all railroad lines from Virginia to the South save that by way of Lynchburg and East Tennessee, a line quite too long to be of efficient service. Whether Gen. Foster remains near Goldsboro, we are not informed. It is probable, however, that he has withdrawn toward his base at Newbern.

### The Army and the Negroes.

EVERYWHERE THE AMERICAN GENERAL RECEIVES HIS MOST USEFUL AND RELIABLE INFORMATION FROM THE NEGRO, WHO HAS IN HIS COMING AS THE HARBRINGER OF FREEDOM.—Wm. H. Seward's Official Dispatch to Mr. Adams.

"FREEDOM IN THE ABSTRACT."—A correspondent of the New York Times talks in the following fashion of the poor slaves who are rushing within the lines of the Union army in Mississippi:

"What shall we do with them? Along with our forces on the return, came some three hundred negroes, of all ages, sexes, color, sizes and conditions. Tramping eagerly through the deep mud, came old, paralytic women, bent with age and infirmity, who bore the pelting rain and the discomforts of the camp without complaint, their faces and souls all aglow with the thought that they were bound for the North and Freedom. Mothers waded through mud and water, carrying babies in their arms, sustained by the thought that they had at length obtained that wonderful blessing—Freedom. Barefooted children, ragged adults, young women clad in hermaphrodite suits of half petticoats and pantaloons, all came budging on, grinning over the sublime thought that they had obtained that priceless boon—Freedom.

"Freedom in the abstract is a fine thing, and will do to fight, preach, pray, suffer, starve for; but when Freedom amounts to no more than what the negroes obtain at Helena, it is a different affair. There it means simply freedom to starve, rot, die, and the sooner the better. Since I reached that place the average daily mortality among the contrabands has been from ten to twenty. Nobody takes any further interest in them than to kick them out of the way whenever they get in it, and to curse them upon all occasions as a source of the most serious demoralization to the army. Their condition is not a single remove above that of brutes—a more degraded, helpless class of people exists nowhere on the Continent. If our philanthropy is to end in taking them away from their masters, we had better, in mercy to them, decree that as fast as emancipated they shall be shot."

TOLERATION OF NEGRO-HUNTING.—When will the law of Congress and the President's proclamation relative to negroes within the lines of our army be enforced? From all quarters we are hearing of the grossest disregard of the law by military officers. The camps of the American army must cease to be hunting-grounds for fugitive slaves. That such things should any longer continue to exist is a disgrace to the country, a disgrace to humanity; and they continue to exist because military officers set their wills born of negro hatred above the law of the United States. It is the duty of the President to see that the laws be executed; and he can at once see that the law against negro-hunting within the lines of the army be enforced. The summary dismissal of one officer for the violation of the law, would at once put an end to this shameful business.—Commonwealth.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.

Col. John McHenry, of the 17th Kentucky Volunteers, has been dismissed from the service for issuing an order returning slaves to masters from his camp, in violation of additional article of war.

THE FITZHUGH ESTATE.—Fifteen miles below Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 7.—I am writing from one of the old mansions of Virginia, whose foundations were laid in the Seventeenth Century, but to whose superstructure additions have been made all along to the Nineteenth. It is a fine old place, commanding a beautiful view of the river and the valley for many miles to the east and west. Long lines of negro huts stretch to the north and south, but not a single inhabitant is to be found therein save a few poor old horses and cows, which have been placed there for protection from camp marauders. Many years ago its proprietor boasted of his thousands of acres, and his 200 or 300 negroes. Now, one of his descendants cultivates but a few hundred acres, and owns not a single slave. The only negro on the plantation is an active, intelligent fellow, who purchased his own freedom several years ago, and now receives for his labor \$15 per month and his board. The plantation is one of the small remnants of that immense Fitzhugh estate, which, according to Bishop Meade, originally contained 54,000 acres. It has been cultivated for more than two centuries. Fields have been cultivated until they were worn out, then abandoned until dense pine forests covered them, then were again cleared and prepared for cultivation, and so alternating through the decades from timber to tobacco and wheat. Here, too, generation after generation, and crop after crop of negroes have been raised and sold, but instead of adding to the wealth of that proud old family, have at last almost impoverished it. The Fitzhugh family, as all know who are familiar with the history of Virginia, was one of the most aristocratic in Virginia. William Fitzhugh, the founder on this side of the Atlantic, lived really like one of the old English Barons, and during his life wielded quite as much power, having been a man of talent, culture, and force of character, as well as possessor of great wealth. But very little of his vast estate now remains in his family, although branches of it are found all along the valley, from Fredericksburg to the Chesapeake.

Last Spring, just before the advance of Gen. McDowell, fifty-four negroes occupied the butts I have just spoken of. Five of them were hastily packed in a big Virginia waggon, and trundled off in the direction of Richmond. The rest, more fortunate, anticipating the movement, escaped to our lines, and are now scattered through the North. The old mansion and the empty negro butts now look cold and desolate. And yet there

is something attractive about it, and as the snow falls rapidly and the cold northeast wind shrieks and howls around the corners, and this log fire of pine knots crackles and snaps on the wide fireplace, I much prefer my seat before it than the most comfortable one under the most prominent General's tent—warmed and made pleasant as they are by many Yankee contrivances. My host, too, is a very pleasant, agreeable gentleman, and talks about his losses without cursing and swearing at the universe in general and the Yankee army in particular. As yet the present army now slowly approaching the river has disturbed him but little. His fences are in good condition, his stacks of wheat untouched, his cattle quietly eating corn-bushes in the fields. But before the close of another week, as if a flock of Egyptian locusts had settled upon his plantation, he expects all to disappear. Patiently and philosophically he awaits the coming of the marauders. He has seen what has taken place in the vicinity of Fredericksburg, and has prepared his mind to witness a similar desolation of his own plantation.—Tribune.

A BORDER STATE APPEAL.—The Louisville Journal appeals to the colored preachers of Kentucky to tell their flocks that the President's proclamation does not apply to them. The Journal says:

"It is a well-known fact that an impression prevails to a considerable extent among the slave population in Kentucky that they will be free on the first of January, under the proclamation of the President of the United States. If this delusion is not speedily corrected, it will be likely to lead to disastrous results to the negroes, and we know of no better means for correcting the delusion than through the pulpits of the African churches. We, therefore, for the sake of the welfare of the negroes, suggest to their preachers through the State to earnestly, zealously and energetically set themselves to work to correct the evil at once. Kentucky is not in any way included in the President's proclamation. That proclamation, which expressly refers to States or portions of States that are engaged in armed rebellion."

NEON HANGED AT HOLLY SPRINGS.—When Col. Lee occupied Holly Springs, Miss., some weeks since, with cavalry, a colored man gave him information which was of much importance, and led, among other things, to the capture of a rebel officer. When Col. Lee retired the negro was left behind, and was immediately hanged by a mob of citizens and rebel soldiers.

## New Publications.

THE RESULTS OF EMANCIPATION. By AUGUSTUS COCHIN, Ex-Maire and Municipal Councillor of Paris. Work crowned by the Institute of France. Translated by MARY L. BOOTH, Translator of Count de Gasparin's works on America, etc. Boston: Walker, Wise & Co. 1863.

The author of this work is an eminent citizen and publicist of France, honorably identified with the cause of liberty in that country and throughout the world, and qualified by large experience as a landowner and proprietor of iron forges to collect and weigh evidence upon questions relating to the organization of labor and capital, and to the physical, social and moral condition of the laboring classes. The work is not the embodiment of theories springing up in the mind of an enthusiast, but, as the translator well says, "an array of clear and well-digested facts, presented in a calm, unprejudiced manner, and drawn from official sources, to which few men would have had so full access, and which few men would have studied so diligently and minutely. Indeed, the published and unpublished papers and records of every ministry of Europe have been placed at his disposal during the preparation of his work; in England he has had all the unpublished documents of the Board of Trade, and the sagacious Nassau Senior, one of the wisest counselors of the British government, has rendered him constant aid. The reliability of his facts and conclusions cannot, therefore, be contested, and in this respect the work is of the utmost value to the American public, as there is no work extant in the English language which sums up so fully and incontestably the practical results of emancipation."

If the American people were not rather Atheists than Christians, they would not need an elaborate array of well-authenticated historic examples to convince them that it is safe to strike off the chains from the limbs of slaves, and dangerous only to keep them in bondage. But for the moral blindness which the practice of oppression always induces, they would know, instinctively, that it is safe to do complete and instant justice to the oppressed, and that calamity and disaster are sure to follow a persistence in the crime of slavery. Thousands of men and women, intelligent on most other subjects, talk upon this with an incoherence worthy of Bedlam. In their minds emancipation as applied to slaves is synonymous with insurrection, blood and horror. We presume that the President of the United States has hesitated to decree the abolition of slavery more on account of unfounded apprehensions as to the consequences of the measure than from any doubt of his power, as the head of the Army and Navy, to make such a decree. It is a pity that he and so many others in authority are so wanting in faith as to the natural operations of the law of Justice, and at the same time so ignorant of the facts which incontestably show that emancipation is always safe in itself and beneficent in its effects alike upon masters and slaves. For a long time the Abolitionists have earnestly labored to enlighten their fellow-citizens upon this subject, but their voices have been drowned by the clamors of pro-slavery priests, politicians and editors. Now, at length, the truth which the prejudices of the people forbade them to receive from us is beginning to find utterance in high quarters, and from the lips and pens of men who command the ear of the world. For this we are profoundly thankful to God, and we accept the fact as a sign that the day of the world's redemption from slavery is drawing nigh.

This work of M. Cochin appears in this country at a fortunate time, and we indulge the hope that it will arrest the attention of many of those who need to have their faith in justice and freedom fortified by the facts it so lucidly presents.

As the French language is to us an "unknown tongue," we are hardly qualified to testify as to the fidelity of the translation; but we can at least affirm that Miss Booth has given us the book of M. Cochin in clear and vigorous English.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY for January, 1863—the first number of volume XL.—is more than commonly attractive. We give the list of articles as follows: Happiest Days, by Gail Hamilton; The Promise of the Dawn—a Christmas Story, by the author of "Life in the Iron Mills"; In the Half-Way House, a poem, by James Russell Lowell; Mr. Buckle as a Thinker, by D. A. Wasson; Recollections of a Gifted Woman, by Nathaniel Hawthorne; Mr. Axtell—conclusion; The Legend of Rabbi Ben Levi, by H. W. Longfellow; My Friend the Watch, by Geo. Wm. Curtis; Benjamin Banneker, the Negro Astronomer, by M. D. Conway; The Sleeping Sentinel, by James T. Fields; Iron-clad Ships and Heavy Ordnance, by Alexander L. Holly; Andrew Rykman's Prayer, by John G. Whittier; The Strathsays, by Harriet E. Prescott; The Fine Lady, by Julia Ward Howe; A Reply—addressed to the Women of England, by Mrs. H. B. Stowe; The Soldier's Rally, by T. Jefferson Cutler; Overtures from Richmond, by Prof. Francis J. Child; Reviews and Literary Notices.

Turning, first of all, to Mrs. Stowe's "Reply to the Women of England," we find it a model of sound argument, pathetic remonstrance and Christian rebuke. It ought to be circulated in every part of Great Britain, where it cannot fail to bring a blush upon the cheeks of women of the highest social rank, who, having only a few years ago besought their sisters in America to exert their influence in favor of the abolition of slavery, are now lending their sympathies to the avowed champions of the system which they then pronounced the disgrace of the Christian world. We must give extracts from this "Reply" hereafter.

We regard it as a hopeful sign of the times, that *The Atlantic*, in spite of all obstacles, is constantly gaining in circulation and influence. It not only takes a high literary rank, but is on the side of Liberty and Right in the great struggle with slavery and rebellion. Boston: Ticknor and Fields.

THE PROGRESSIVE ANNUAL for 1863 (A. J. Davis & Co., 274 Canal street) comprises "an Almanac, a Spiritualistic Register and a General Calendar of Reform"; also, articles on various subjects by A. J. Davis, Sara E. Payson, Mary F. Davis, C. M. Plumb, and others. The list of writers, speakers and workers in the different fields of human progress, which has evidently been compiled with diligence and impartiality, will be found very convenient for reference. It also contains a list of all the Female Physicians in the country as far as ascertained.

LITTLE'S LIVING AGE.—We embrace the opportunity afforded by the beginning of a new volume of this work to repeat our commendation of it as among the very best of American periodicals. True, the editor sometimes dips into controversies upon theological and