

## THE PRESS OF DESERET.

No printing press in days of yore  
Did light and truth diffuse;  
The tardy movements science wore  
Cramped the unlettered muse.  
But now the mind's electric fire  
Beams forth where'er we be;  
The pen and press has gained a name—  
Will soon the world set free.

For in this desert land of ours,  
Not twenty years ago,  
The savage roamed o'er hill and heath  
Where vineyards now do grow.  
Then without sentiment or song  
To cheer the dreary waste;  
Now in intellectual science reigns,  
With manners pure and chaste.

And here in Deseret we claim  
Arts—genius in each trade,  
And all that gave the world a name,  
May of her now be said.  
And may the living spark inspire  
Each freeman's heart to glow.  
Till this wild waste becomes empire,  
Where truth and light shall flow.

G. S. L. City, Feb. 12, 1863.

J. LYON.

## DOINGS OF CONGRESS.

In the Senate on the 20th of January, Mr. Hale from the Naval Committee, reported back the bill to authorize letters of marque and reprisal, with amendments. Mr. Wilson introduced a bill providing for prompt and uniform administration of military justice, and the better government of the military forces of the United States. A motion was made by Mr. Trumbull, to take up the bill providing for the reorganization of the Court of Claims, which Mr. Sherman opposed, as there were other and more weighty matters which should first be taken into consideration, among which was the bill concerning the discharge of State prisoners. He said that unless something was done on that subject, there would be collision between the Federal and State Governments. There was now almost a civil war in two of the States. He was opposed to the consideration of any bill of the kind, until a conscription law was passed, the financial measures disposed of, and some bill passed so that disloyal citizens could be arrested according to law. The motion however prevailed, and the bill was taken up, discussed, and several amendments adopted, but no final action taken.

In the House, a resolution declaring that William Vandever of Iowa, has not been entitled to a seat, since he was mustered in the service of the United States, as Col. of the 9th Iowa Regt., was taken up and adopted. The House then went into Committee of the Whole, on the bill providing for the support of the Government.

In the Senate on Wednesday, January 21st, Mr. Ten Eyck presented the credentials of Hon. James M. Wall, Senator elect from New Jersey, who appeared, was sworn, and took his seat. The consideration of the bill for the reorganization of the Court of Claims was resumed, and after a lengthy discussion, the bill was passed by a vote of 23 yeas to 15 nays.

In the House on the 23d, the vote declaring Vandever not entitled to a seat, was reconsidered. A protracted debate ensued, resulting in the postponement of the case till the 3d of March next, by a vote of 78 to 68. The amendments made by the Senate to the Military Academy bill, were concurred in, and then the House went into Committee of the Whole, for general debate.

On Thursday, January 22d, in the Senate Mr. Lane presented the credentials of the Hon. David Turpie, Senator elect, from the State of Indiana. The bill to reimburse the State of Minnesota for expenses incurred in defending the State against Indian outrages, was taken up and passed.

The bill providing for the greater comfort of the sick and wounded soldiers, and promote efficiency in the medical department of the army, was taken up, the principal provisions of which were the increase of the rank and pay of a few officers, and the increase of the commutation of rations in the hospitals, from eighteen to thirty cents. The bill was strongly opposed by several Senators, among whom was Mr. Rice, who declared that he was opposed to all bills for increase of rank and pay. No accurate information could be obtained from the departments, as to the number of men in the field, neither as to the number of the sick and wounded in the hospitals. Some of the estimates had been made

for twelve hundred thousand men, and some for fifteen hundred thousand, but none of the heads of departments could tell within fifty per cent what the real number was, but the city was constantly for money and increase of rank and pay, and he was unwilling to appropriate money, unless he knew what for. The representations made by some of the Senators in relation to the sufferings of the soldiers in the hospitals and convalescent camps in consequence of the inattention of those in charge, and the thieving operations which were constantly going on, were of a most disgusting character.

In the House on the 22d, a bill was passed providing for the appointment of a deputy Register of the Treasury, and extending the time for the appointment of assistant Secretaries of war.

In the Senate on Friday, January 23d, the bill providing for the printing the annual report of the banks of the United States was passed. Resolutions were adopted instructing the Military Committee to inquire into the condition of affairs in the convalescent camp at Alexandria; directing the Secretary of war to inform the Senate whether any more Major and Brigadier Generals had been appointed and paid than authorized by law; and if so, how many, and the amount paid to each, and requesting the Secretary of the Treasury to report the amount of revenue, if any, that had accrued to the government since the passage of the act of March 2, 1861, from the duty on printing paper, and whether in his opinion the reduction of the duty would tend to increase the public revenue. The bill to provide for the greater comfort of sick and wounded soldiers and to promote the efficiency of the medical department was passed, after striking out the provisions increasing the rank and pay of certain officers; the appointment of more medical officers, and increasing the commutation of rations, and substituting an amendment providing for the procurement of what might be necessary for the comfort and proper diet of sick and wounded soldiers. A communication was received from the President transmitting the report and correspondence relative to the exportation of arms for the French army in Mexico.

The entire session of the House on the 23rd was spent in committee of the whole discussing the bill to provide ways and means for the support of the government.

Both Houses adjourned till the following Monday.

In the Senate, on Monday Jan. 26th, the bill to suspend the sale of lands on the coast of South Carolina and Georgia was passed, also the bill providing for the better protection of overland emigrants to the Pacific coast.

A resolution was adopted instructing the committee on the conduct of the war to inquire whether the army plans of Gen. Burnside for the movement of the army of the Potomac had been interfered with by officers writing to or visiting Washington to oppose them, and if such movements had been arrested, and if so, by what authority.

In the House, on the 26th, Mr. Stratton from the committee of Ways and Means, reported back with a favorable recommendation the bill to establish a branch mint in the Territory of Nevada. Mr. Stevens reported a bill which was laid over, authorizing the President to raise and equip one hundred and fifty thousand soldiers of African descent for five years. The Senate bill amendatory of the judicial system, making Ohio and Michigan the Seventh, and Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin the Eighth Judicial circuit was taken up and passed.

In the Senate, on Tuesday, the 27th of January, Mr. Howard introduced a bill relative to the time of holding Circuit and District courts of the United States; Mr. Pomeroy a bill in relation to the better organization of the militia, and Mr. Wilson a bill to authorize contracts to be made in such States as may advance pay and allotment to volunteers and militia in the service of the United States, which were referred to the appropriate committees.

The bill to provide for the removal of the Sioux Indians from Minnesota was taken up and passed.

Mr. Trumbull called up the bill for the indemnification of the President and other persons for suspending the privileges of the writ of habeas corpus and acts done in pursuance thereof. A lengthy and spirited discussion followed, and some of the Democratic mem-

bers were quite free in their invectives against the President, accusing him of violating the Constitution, calling him an imbecile, etc. Mr. Saulsbury was called to order, and finally ordered under arrest by the Vice-President, upon which he exhibited a pistol, swore, shook his fists, and showed considerable fight but hurt no one. The bill was finally passed, with some amendments, by a vote of 33 to 7.

In the House, on the 27th, the Deficiency Bill was under discussion in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Stevens offered a substitute for the bill heretofore offered by him, authorizing President Lincoln to enroll, arm and equip in the land and naval service such number of volunteers of African descent as he may deem useful to suppress the present rebellion, and for such term as he may prescribe, not exceeding seven years. Mr. Hickman offered a substitute, authorizing the President to raise not exceeding three hundred regiments of persons of African descent or colored persons, to be uniformed, armed and equipped as he may direct, for the term of seven years, unless sooner discharged.

In the Senate, on Wednesday, the 28th, Mr. Collamer, from the Committee on Post offices, reported back a bill to establish a system of postal money orders, with the recommendation that it should not pass. Mr. Clark introduced a resolution to expel Mr. Saulsbury, which was laid over under the rule. Mr. Wall offered a resolution which was adopted, instructing the Military Committee to inquire into the propriety of extending such relief as circumstances may require, and inquire into the case of Mr. Thomas, of Maryland, prisoner of war at Fort Lafayette, and who, as represented, had been confined in a dungeon since June last, and was now hopelessly insane by reason of his sufferings. A bill making appropriations for the payment of pensions to invalid soldiers was taken up and passed. The army appropriation bill was also taken up, amended and passed.

In the House, on the 29th, the entire day was spent in discussing Mr. Stevens' bill, authorizing the employment of soldiers of African descent, and the entire night till half-past 5 on Thursday morning in an ineffectual attempt to pass it. It is represented to have been a very exciting scene.

In the Senate, on Thursday, the 29th, Mr. Saulsbury apologized for his conduct on the evening of the 27th.

The bill to assist the State of Missouri in the emancipation of slaves was taken up and discussed at considerable length, but no action was taken.

In the House, on the 29th, there was but little business transacted. A resolution was adopted inquiring as to the expediency of devoting the proceeds from public lands to instruction in the military profession, and the Committee of Ways and Means were instructed to make inquiries into the expediency of enacting a law to prohibit individuals and banks from receiving gold to secure the payment of borrowed money, and whether such an act would not prevent the speculation in gold, and protect the people from the evils of such speculation. The negro soldier bill was again called up, but no vote was taken.

In the Senate, on Friday, the 30th, several private bills were passed. A resolution was adopted providing for the distribution of documents belonging to Senators of States unrepresented among the Senators present. The bill granting aid to the State of Missouri for emancipation was taken up, discussed, and finally referred to the Judiciary Committee.

In the House, on the 30th, after the presentation of several resolutions, and receiving a message from the President recommending that a resolution of thanks be passed to Rear Admiral David E. Porter for the bravery and skill displayed by him at Arkansas Post, which were disposed of in the usual way, the discussion of the negro bill was resumed, and continued until the hour of adjournment.

In the Senate, on Saturday, the 31st, a resolution was passed tendering the thanks of Congress to Commodore Worden for gallant conduct in the fight between the Monitor and Merrimac. A joint resolution tendering the thanks of Congress to Commodore James L. Lardner, Charles H. Davis, J. H. Dahlgren, Stephen C. Rowan, David E. Porter and S. H. Stringham was passed with an amendment

limiting such votes in the future to those who shall command expeditions, or be engaged on some special service. On motion of Mr. Fessenden, the Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill was taken up and passed.

Mr. McDougall called up the resolution requesting President Lincoln to transmit to the Senate the orders and papers relative to the exportation of arms and munitions of war to Mexico for the use of the French, which was adopted.

In the House, on the 31st, the entire day was spent in discussing the negro soldier bill.

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS.

The guerrillas in the State of Missouri are committing dreadful barbarities. A dispatch to the Missouri Democrat says that recently five men of the 5th Cavalry, Mo. Militia, were captured, shot, their faces cut to pieces by both-hoes, their ears cut off, and one had powder placed in his ear and ignited.

The War Department have sent out arms and officers to enlist, drill and put into action all loyal blacks who may rally around the flag at the rendezvous to be opened at Brunswick, Georgia.

It is reported that the defenses of Washington are to be constituted into a department entirely separate from the Army of the Potomac, and commanded by an officer who is not to be under the command of the commander of that army.

Simon Cameron offers to lead a brigade of colored Unionists into the heart of the rebellion.

James Watson Webb, U. S. Minister to Brazil, it is reported, had challenged the British Minister at Rio Janeiro to fight a duel.

A writer in the North Methodist Christian Advocate says: "Of the forty-eight Annual Conferences, all but six report losses ranging from 5,173 to 21. An equal aggregate loss for twenty years would exhaust the entire Church!"

Senator Wilson, in Washington, lately stated that the U. S. Army was entirely corrupt and rotten, and that there was no energy and no patriotism in it.

Washington gossip says that Secretary Chase will soon lead to the hymanial altar the accomplished widow of the late Senator Douglas.

The wife of Gen. McClellan has been presented with an elegantly furnished house in Fifth Avenue, New York.

The New South is the name of the government organ just commenced for distribution among the soldiers at Port Royal, South Carolina.

TRAVELING ROUND.—The Key West (Florida) correspondent of the New York Herald, writing on the 6th of January, states that: "The majority of the newspaper mail that arrived here yesterday was for Salt Lake City, Wisconsin and Minnesota. Who is responsible for mistakes of this kind? I suppose our missing mail has been served in a like manner, and sent, maybe, to Japan."

The above may be edifying to some of our readers, who have been looking for papers. Like the Irishman's teapot that fell into the sea, there is some consolation in knowing where it is.

SEE HERE.—Those in want of brushes of any kind can obtain them of Hyler & Lang at their manufactory in the 9th ward, or of their agent, T. D. Brown, three doors north of Godbe's store, Main street. They manufacture an excellent article, as good, if not better than any produced heretofore in this Territory.

GOOD CONUNDR.—A late received number of the Council Bluffs Bugle contains the following:

"Why are 'Legal Tender Notes' like the Jews?"

Because they are the issue of 'Father Abraham,' and know not that their redeemer liveth.

KITCHEN GARDENS.—The Scientific American says that, before the era of kitchen gardens, scurvy was one of the diseases by which the English population was kept down. Cabbages were not known in England until the period of Henry VIII. George I. was obliged to send to Holland to procure lettuce for his queen. The Egyptians made a god of the cabbage, and the Greeks and Romans took it as a remedy for the languor following inebriation.