

We add before our readers, in our past issue the message of President Davis.

From it we have a most convincing statement of facts. These portions of his State held by the enemy have nearly all been retained by the tenure of the hands upon them, unbroken. Our forces are in much better condition than man had supposed and with the addition of the remaining practicable suggestion of the Secretary of the Treasury it is hoped any further be provided for the safety of the nation, and in defense of our liberties, and demanded at present. The various sections of the government with the approval of the people with the exception of the recommendation of the naval of all class exemptions. This is condemned as unsafe not only by the people but the men in the field.

The last Congress modified the exemption bill so as to apply to Preachers, Teachers, Priests, Physicians and Druggists, which classes were deemed essentially necessary for the public good. There has been much regret expressed over the recommendation of exemption from the service of all who are among those who believe that President Davis is eminently a patriot, that he would do anything consistent with reason and right for the advancement of the interests of his country, but that the suggestion on this subject was elicited by the personal of the exemption bill as it stood

before it was modified by the last Congress, the vast army of classes numbered therein being sufficient to cause the request for the repeal of all exemptions of patriotic duty on his part. But General Shoemaker, Tel-

ler, Blacksmiths, Millers, and in fact all the classes named above have been subject to DEATH and not EXEMPTION since the framing of the new exemption bill by the last Congress. We doubt not that when the President calls to mind that only a few classes, deemed essentially necessary, were exempted, instead of the army mentioned in his message that he will be anxious to change the law as the people, the press or the army.

We do not know, however, whether the Editors, Patriots, &c. detailed that President Davis would exercise any authority to muscle the Press or the Publ. If it must be clearly understood by him that the free outspoken sentiments of the Press have contributed largely to make us the united people we are, that while the administration has been wrongfully assisted ten times have been made for our enemy and that the concordant utterances of the Press have kept up the confirmed spirit and determined spirit of our people. That at least is implied by our friends, for in their editorials they have never denied Capt. W. T. Fay's account of Col. Payton in this district, nor the details of his services. We may now, however, Capt. Fay's acquaintance, prior to his past history in our militia, but from his past history and the short acquaintance already formed, we have no doubt his appointment will give general satisfaction.

Lincoln Elects.
Lincoln's majority of the popular vote is reported to be about 200,000, and of the electoral vote 103. According to the *Times*, New York gives Lincoln 3,860, the New England States 100,000, including the soldiers' vote. Pennsylvania 20,000, including the soldiers' vote, Maryland 10,000, Ohio 50,000, Indiana 10,000, Illinois 20,000, Wisconsin 10,000. There was no opposition to Lincoln in West Virginia. Missouri voted for Lincoln, McClellan, and New Jersey 7,000. He carried Delaware and Kentucky. The telepublics gained largely in Congressional delegations. In Nashville Lincoln 20,000, McClellan 27.

Excavator of Passions.—Between thirty and four thousand Confederate prisoners have arrived at Savannah, Ga., for exchange under the recent arrangement for the exchange of prisoners entered into by the respective Commissioners of the two Governments. Many of them are prepared to return to their commands once.

A Silver Star.
Col. Witherspoon, of the 36th Mississippi regiment, has given the *Mississippi* a very interesting account of the capture of his regiment, of a construction depot, where immense materials for the building of fortifications accumulated. Duplicate bridges for the use of the rebels were made and numbered and ready to go, together with everything necessary for a road. A large amount of the corporal's tools were captured, also the machine, two hundred in number, which were employed in the destruction of the railroad, will prove of great value to Yankee transportation on that rail road. It will be of immense value to us.

Gex. Sumner's Operations in Arkansas.
Gen. Shiloh, during the month of September, arrived in the capture in a series of posts and the destruction of a bridge across the railroad between Little Rock and Devil's Bluff. The rugged terrain of the expedition was overcome by the skill of the rebels, who, with their horses, were able to cross the river, and the lack of navigable rivers, we can keep, not Yankees only, but the whole world at bay forever again. So we could.

The sugar-crop of Texas, this year, it is said, will be 100,000,000 lbs. sugar, mostly with Mexico, and sugar from Mexico to the outside world, appears to be unrestricted. A merchant, in Houston, advised 250 tons pruning paper, 2500 lbs. of the San Antonio manufacture sufficient to supply all of cotton.

W. H. McGOAN.
We agree with a contemporary of Lynchburg that it is ill to believe that an enlightened Congress will interfere with the liberties of the Press or Religion with a single rifle. We hope that it is better to let a well-conducted newspaper do the chaffing and great injury to the South.

His Qd's Army Northern, Virginia.

November 13, 1861.

General Breckinridge reports that,

the night of 13th instant, he turned about, when the enemy attempted to retreat.

About 1 o'clock in the 4th instant, with Tugman's and Braxton's regiments, he crossed the James River, and reached Petersburg, the seat of a colony, six pieces of artillery, three pieces of ordnance, and one piece of field gun.

He is now marching towards the Southwest.

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