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gone to New Orleans, where by this time his fleet is probably arriving. He left New York on the 4th. It was the President's own remark that "the expedition would not be heard from before ten days at least."—This could not be were it to fall short of doubling the capes of Florida. He has not been heard from yet, though the rumors have come back noting the putting in of vessels from his fleet into points on the North Carolina coast, and Port Royal, strengthening our forces at those places.
But what will Gen. Banks do at New Orleans. We are prepared to believe that great and exceeding dread is about to fall upon the rebels from this cause. He has come down to take possession of the richest portion of the rebel South. He will be on the ground when the mailed hand of the President as Commander-in-Chief, lets in the light of Liberty upon the million slaves of that fairest region of Secessia. He is there ready to seize and enforce the great military necessity of *destroying Slavery that the Union may live*. Take your map and a pair of compasses. Place one point on New Orleans as a center, and the other on Apalachicola Bay in Florida. Now sweep the circuit northward and westward and extend the arc until it touches the gulf coast of Texas. This is to be the field of operations of Gen. Banks. When ice and snow thicken around the winter huts of Burnside's army, the forces of Banks will find no impediments in the season, to sweep their entire field.
It is full of the great staples of the South. It is full of blacks, sent thither for security from more perturbed regions northward. It is full of rebels in whose hearts is only malice and hatred to the Union, and from among whom loyal men have been crushed out with an iron hand. It is the innermost seat of the rebellion, the cherished center of which the Rappahannock line is but an outpost. Into this center has sailed Gen. Banks.
He has arrived in season for the first of January. He will be to the South and to civilization, the almoner of the President's great New-Year's gift to humanity, a gift born of the necessities of this war. Gen. Banks is here ready to commence at the very point of progress where Gen. Hunter was stopped on the 19th of May last. The work of seizure and confiscation, and liberation will go on apace. The President will open flood-gates with a full head on. General Banks has gone to take possession of the South, and in two weeks the President will say, in words of more import than were ever before accorded to mere human utterance "It is TIME."

For this undertaking Gen. Banks' expedition is expressly made up. His heavy mailed craft will thunder at the fortified entrances of gun harbors; his light draft war vessels will sweep the bays and estuaries that indent the gulf coast. He will, by virtue of military possession, make use for the ship load or more of coarse uniforms, about which the secess organs have been irefully grumbling, every jacket and trowse of which will encase a stout negro, armed with a Federal musket, and, under the promise of liberty, a soldier for the Union. He will confiscate plantations and blacks, and all of the latter not called to bear arms will be set at work upon the problem of Free Labor, the experiment of the holy institutions of Home and Marriage secured to their humble cabins by the same instrument that punishes the rebel master. "In all this the torch of insurrection and servile war will not be lighted. Held firmly by the hand of the Department the civilization of the freedmen will find scope enough for progress in other directions than in acts of savagery. The Government has felt its way carefully along to the fact that the black makes a good soldier, will fight in the field, and is not a tailless monkey.

pared and predicted for it.
Under the circumstances, the achievement, in all its parts, is one of the most adroit and successful military escapades which has occurred during this eventful war. The only parallel to it is that of the escape of the rebel army under Jackson after the battle of Antietam, and fairly balances that account. This may be truthfully stated without admitting the parallel in other respects.
These events are variously commented upon by officers and soldiers. The latter are but too glad to escape from a bad box, and find little inclination to criticise the way they were placed there, or the manner of their getting away.
Disparaging remarks and inuendoes have been heard from some officers, who have been predicting nothing but evil since the removal of their "Little Mac" from the command of the army. Then there are the inevitable wiseacres, who always exclaim, "I told you so." How many there are who know how the ship might have been saved after she is on the shore.
The arrival of Gen. Sigel, and other large reinforcements, will inspire new courage in the army, and a brief respite will prepare them for a new movement, under more favorable circumstances and with greatly renewed chances of success.

Dred Scott Redivivus.

Proclamation by Gen. Rosecrans.
HEADQUARTERS 14th ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 4, 1862 }
General Orders, No. 31.
The General Commanding has received several applications from Kentuckians, who have abandoned the rebel armies, for permission to return to their homes; and he is informed that large numbers of others would make the same request of him did they dare hope for a favorable reply. Under these circumstances the General feels called upon to define his views with relation to all this class of men, and to say what he is prepared to do in such cases.
This war is waged for the preservation of the Union of our fathers. To preserve that Union, the rebellious States must be coerced into submission. This is the one great end we have in view—and this end must and shall be attained. Without passion, from a sense of duty, trusting in the God who abhors pride and all injustice, we march onward to that end.
That the people of the South have been deluded by ambitious demagogues, deceived by lying misrepresentations, carried away, some by natural sympathies, others by an irresistible current of circumstances—that many have even been forced into a participation in the rebellion, we well know. We both know and deplore the cruel necessities of the situation made for them by their rulers. We abhor the grinding despotism which has devoured their substance, depopulated their valleys, converted peaceful neighborhoods into hands of banditti, and substituted a reign of oppression and terror for the mild government under which, but two short years ago, they were so happily living. We pity them—we have pitied them—even while duty compelled us to unsheath the sword against them; and though so long as they confront us in arms our swords shall never be returned to their scabbards, we yet will gladly hail the day when this desolating and unnatural war shall cease.
For this reason the General commanding is disposed to hold out every encouragement to these misguided men to lay down their arms, and abandon the desperate cause in which they are embarked, return to their homes and families, and resume once more the tranquil occupations of peace.
All that will be exacted of those who will honestly do so, will be to take the non-combatant's parole and give proper security that they will keep it. So long as they faithfully observe this parole, obey the laws and de-

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RETURNED.—Our fellow-townsmen, AMOS PRITTS, Esq., formerly "mine host" of the Exchange Hotel, but more recently occupying the position of Sutler of the 154th Regiment, returned to his home in this village on Friday noon last. He looks well and hearty, but has had enough of camp-life.
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lage on Christmas day, at 10½ o'clock, A. M.
The appointment for services on Christmas Eve, is hereby recalled.
A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL of the Sunday School belonging to St. John's Church, will be held at Concert Hall, on Friday evening, the 26th inst.

JURY LIST.—We are under obligations to THOMAS A. E. LYMAN, Esq., County Clerk, for the following list of Grand and Petit Jurors drawn to serve at a Circuit Court and Court of Oyer and Terminer, to be held at the Court House, in this village, on the fourth Monday of January next:

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