

"Telegraph to the Herald - Stampede of Negroes to the Union Lines,"

Boston (MA) Herald, December 23, 1864

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## TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD

### FROM THE SOUTH.

## WITHDRAWAL OF MR. FOOTE FROM THE REBEL CONGRESS.

### His Opinion of Jeff. Davis.

## THE "CONFEDERACY" TUMBLING TO PIECES.

## GEN. LEE REPORTED SEVERELY WOUNDED.

### Stampede of Negroes to the Union Lines.

## THE SLAVES TO BE ARMED IMMEDIATELY.

### Seizure of Every Able Bodied Negro by the Rebel Government.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23d. In the rebel House of Representatives on Saturday, resolutions were offered in favor of sending Commissioners to Washington for the restoration of peace. It was stated that Gen. Grant had granted permission to such Commissioners to pass his lines.

Mr. Foote, in the rebel Senate, in a speech on the currency bill, announced his withdrawal from that body in disgust. He said the Confederacy was on the verge of ruin, and that Congress was building up an irresponsible military despotism, the like of which was never before seen on earth. Its policy seemed to be to crush out dissatisfaction by armed violence.

Ten days hence freedom of deliberation would be effectually extinguished in that body. The unjust, unwise and criminal displacement of Johnston from the Army of Tennessee, and the transfer of the army to Nashville, have opened all Southern Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama to the army of Sherman. Fort McAllister has fallen; Savannah is about to fall, and the fate of Charleston only seems deferred a few days later. Hood's army had already met with disaster at Franklin, and in his (Foote's) judgment, was fatally compromised. Presidential interference was the cause of all these dire mischiefs, and is the result of the unfortunate battle of Murfreesboro', and the more disastrous one of Missionary Ridge. Should Hood's army be destroyed, an event which he feared was too probable, and Sherman come round to this vicinity in ships, which he (Foote) did not doubt he intends, what will be the fate of Richmond.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22. The Tribune army correspondent, in giving extracts from the Richmond papers, says the rebel Senate on last Saturday went into secret session, and a stormy time was had. The question of immediately arming the negroes was again brought up, and the measure is believed to have passed by an almost unanimous vote. For several days past every able-bodied negro has been quietly seized and carried off to a corps of instruction. This may account for their stampeding, noted in another paragraph.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22. The Herald's correspondent in front of Richmond says it is reported that Gen. Lee was wounded in front of Petersburg last Saturday, and will be unable to report for duty for some time. Deserters say that desertions from the rebel army will be heavy in future.

The Richmond Examiner of the 19th, notices the fact that large numbers of negroes have recently stampeded to the Yankee lines.

The Examiner of the 19th also says the Yankees have been in Wytheville and other parts of Southwestern Virginia, and destroyed three locomotives and done other damage.

The Savannah Republican of the 18th, says that on Saturday and Sunday artillery firing was kept up actively on both sides with more or less skirmishing. It says there is no change in the aspect of affairs; everything goes on well, and all are in the best of spirits.

The Charleston Mercury of the 16th, says Sherman appears to have abandoned a direct attack on Savannah, and is apparently turning his attention to the reduction of the outposts. It regrets the fall of Fort McAllister, and says the enemy will next make a desperate effort to take Genes Point.

The Richmond Sentinel of the 19th says Gen. Burbridge is retreating from Southwestern Virginia, and that Vaughn is trying to get in his rear. It also says large quantities of stores are being sent from Chattanooga to Knoxville.

The Richmond Whig of the 19th says, Jeff Davis has suffered for several days from neuralgia, and that absurd rumors had been afloat to affect the gold market. It also says that Kirby Smith is defrauding the government out of a large number of fine beef cattle, which, by his orders are run into Mexico from Texas.

Slave Stampedes on the Southern Borderlands

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