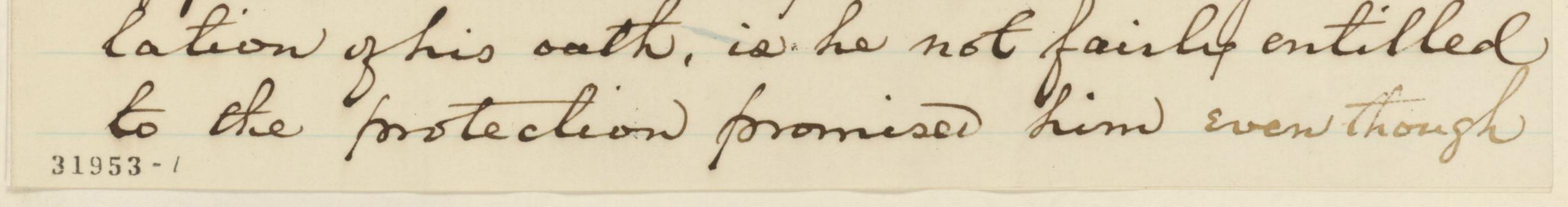
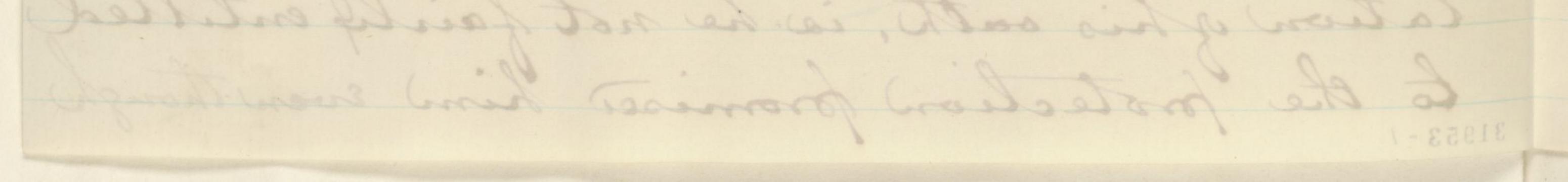
Washington, march 30th, 1864. His Excellency, A. Sincoln, Sind alean Sine. according to your Suggestion to Dr. Backers and myself I enclose you a slip containing what seems to be an official statement of the proceedings in the Rev. Dr. armstrongs case. It is Taken from the new Regime, "Hen U Butters official Organ in Norfolk. If this presents the whole case, it seems to me Dr. amotion of aught to be released. to doubt he is in thorough sympathy mich the South, as decided a rebel at heart as any member of the rebel babinet: - but having laken the oath of allegiance under a promise of protect tion if he did so, and having sofar as appears said nothing, done hothing in vio:



he thinks Jeff. Davis the greatest patriol in the world and the Southern Confederacy the grandest & most beniegen government Ever established by mortals? Pardon me, Mr. Precident, for saying that I think the business of supplying churches with pastors, which the War Department seems disposed to underlake, will not only be very difficult and trouble some, but rather injurious Thaw beneficial to the Government. "hours truly, 9. D. Gurley. P.S. I enclose mith this a letter from one of Dr. Amotrong's friends which I received Since Dr. Backus and myseef called to Lee yow. D.D.G.



THE CASE OF BEV. JAMES D. ARMSTONG. Captain Edgar, the officer who investigated the charges of disloyalty preferred against Rev. James D. Armstrong

reports as follows : HEAD'QES, DIST. OF VIRGINIA,) Provost Marshall's Office, Norfolk, Va., Feb. 24th 1864.

COLONEL :-- I have the honor of reporting, that after investigration, the Rev. James D. Armstrong, D. D., Pastor of the Prespeterian Church of this City is not loyal in any zonse of the term. It is true he "took the Oath" in December last, but he declines answ ring some very important questions which would doubtless involve some other Rebelas arrant as himself. Most of his answers to my questions you will see prove him to be in perfect sympathy with the Rebels now. I therefore suggest that he be ordered before the Commanding General, that he may End the benefit of Bread and Water,' if he declines answoring him, and to receive such other punishment as in his judgement he deserves.

His past and present high social position in the community and his reputation as a Devine of the first order makes his case more heinons in my humble judgement.-Treport in favor of disposing him from his Pulpit and placing more loyal man in his place.

Accompanying, please find a record of his investigation made by me, Feb. 22nd, as witnessed by several of my Clerks, and a copy of a Thanksgiving Sermon preached by him on the "Vic ory of Manassas upon the recommendation of the Confederate Congress, July 21st, 1861. NOW the Reverend Gentlemon says he is opposed to bringing "Politics into the Pulpit."

"INVESTIGATION,"

Ques. Do you call yourself loyal man in letter and spirt to-day ?

Ans. I prefer not answering.

Ques. What is the name of that gentleman who had taken the Oath and while coming out of the Custom House with you, made the remark that he "would like io spit upon Northern Yankees," or something to that effect ?

Ans. I prefer not answering.

Ques. Have you over in your Palpit alluded favorably to the Southern cause?

Ans. I preached a sermon on the recommendation of the South rn Congress.

Ques. Did you object at that time to doing so?

Ans. No. Sir.

Ques. Have you since the commencement of the War preached in your pulpit a sermon favorable to the Union cause, one that would please the loyal, and displease the disloyal?

Ans. No. Sir.

Ques. Where were you born?

Ans. In New Jersey. I came to Fa., when 19 years old.

Ques. Have you determined in your mind not to pray for or allude to the President of the United States, the Authorities, the Armies and Navies thereof, that they may be successful in all their efforts to put down this wicked rebellion ?

Ans. I have.

Ques. Do you think this is a wicked Rebellion ? Ans. No, Sir.

Ques. Have you since the commencement of the war, opened your church on any Fast or Thanksgiving day recommended by the President of the United States?

Ans. No, Sir.

Ques. Did you ever open your church in Jeff Davis recommendation ?

Ans. There has been meeting for prayer.

Ques. Should the President of the United States within a short time recommend a day of Thanksgiving or Fast, with a view that Christians would unite in prayer for the overthrow of all Rebels in arms against the Government of the United States, would you willingly open your church and take charge of suchmeetings to that end?

Ans. I should not.

Ques. Do you look upon Slavery as a Divine institution?

Ans. I look upon it as allowable.

Qnes. Did you look upon the hanging of John Brown as just and right?

Ans. I did.

Ques. Would you look upon the hauging of any of the prominent Rebels, Jeff Davis for instance, as just and right?

Ans. I should not.

Ques. Are you religiously and morally opposed to capital publishmant?

Ans, I am not.

Ques. Do you look upon Jeff. Davis or any of his contederates as deserving any severe punishment for their public acts against the government since the commence ment of the war?

Ans Ido not.

Ques. Do you sympathize with the Union Cause or

With the Confederate's Cause . Ans.

Ques. Do you look upon Jeff Davis, Wigfall, J. M Mason, and their former colleagues in the U.S. Longress just preceeding the year 1860 as perjared men, and deserving a traitor's reputation for all time, until they show iruits meat for repentance?

Ans. Ido not.

Ques. Did or do you now, regret the Faderal loss at Smithfield a fow weeks since ?

has siler

Ans. I do nos.

Ques. Do you think the attack upon Fort Sumpter by the rebels justifiable?

Ans. I prefer not answering.

Ques. Do you think the South justifiable in over hav-

Ans I do.

Ques. Should you know of any Blockade runnels or secret mail carriers to or from the Rebels, would you give incondiate information thereof to our authorities that they might be detected and punished as traitors deserve? Ans. I would not have anything to do with it. The matter having gone before Gen. Butler for hearing, he looked into the matter and the clergyman was sent to Hatteras. 31954-2

His Gellency, A. Sincoln, From President of the U. States. Dr. Gurley ? respecting Dr. anstring.]: 31,955