The South-Western.

BY L. DILLARD & CO.

Office...Corner of Texas and Market Streets,

IN WATSON'S BUILDING—UP-STAIRS.

SHREVEPORT:

WEDNESDAY,.....AUGUST 21, 1861.

Red River, opposite this point, is undoubted falling, although it rains almost daily. Last Sunday, Sunday night, and Monday forenoon, we experienced the most dreary, drizzly weather we ever had in August. Since the weather has became clear—the nights pleasant, but the sun during the day scorching. What effect the late comet has had upon the weather, probably those engaged in planting beans to run to the moon, or erecting railroads through almost boundless deserts, to the Pacific ocean, can tell better than ourselves.

ANOTHER VICTORY.—By telegraphic accounts, which will be found in another part of our paper, it will be seen that McCulloch has obtained a great victory over Lyon, in Missouri. God appears to favor the south.

COLONEL J. A. MCRADY.—It is with inexpressible pleasure we lay before our readers, a copy of a letter from this gentleman, consenting to obey the call of his fellow-citizens, and become a candidate to represent them in the lower branch of the State legislature. A more substantial or better citizen never breached the air of Caddo parish.

To offer mere thanks to Dr. Leslie for the substantial token of regard which we found a few days ago upon our table, would be but a poor return if not an expression of gratitude was offered. Even expressions of gratitude cannot repay some obligations—they can only be appreciated by devotion in the closet, an open, though private, acknowledgment before God.

Many thanks to Col. M. Watson for his timely present. Could he have witnessed the "caperings" of the grandson and the doings, and heard the noise of the yard "family circle," his fat sides would have split with real hearty laughter.

PINE APPLES.—We learn by the New Orleans Picayune, that this delicious fruit has been successfully grown in Mr. Cousin's nursery, at Biloxi, Mississippi, and is said to be fully equal in fragrance, flavor and appearance, to the best imported.

From every indication, the most important occurrences will take place during the next forty days. Our citizens may prepare themselves to hear of much hard and desperate fighting.

SALT.—The Jefferson Herald and Gazette says that there is a salt spring in Red River county, Texas, about twelve miles from Clarksville. They had better get to manufacturing salt as soon as possible. We have seen salt sell for $82 per bushel near the sea-board.

THE ENSUING ELECTION.—It is but a little over two months until our election comes off for a member of congress, parish representatives, etc. For the latter, we deem the time sufficient, but for the former office, we think it full time "to be up and a-doing." Since our last congressional election, our district has been almost entirely changed. The aspirants for the office should visit every parish—every precinct—and freely mingle and converse with the people—express without restraint their sentiments, and hear the views of those whose favor they are canvassing. The times require that our representative in congress should be a man of both talents and integrity. We never again want to hear of conventions or packed caucuses to nominate public officers—let the people make their own selections, regardless of party shackles—look to the man, and not partizans, who seek office for self-aggrandisement alone.

In passing through our town the other day, we observed a number of garden lots where the vegetables had entirely decayed. Let them be immediately sewn with turnip seed. They will make a palatable dish for the winter table—first rate food for the cows and pigs. Planters, profit by the hint.

THE DEFENCE OF NEW ORLEANS.—The council of this city, after doing little or nothing for its defence during [illegible] have at length appropriated the sum of $100,000 to fortify it. This is like throwing one bucket of water into the Mississippi river at a low stage of water to swell it. That sum will do about as much good towards successfully fortifying New Orleans as ten cents would do to protect Shreveport. If $10,000,000 had been appropriated, something might have been done, if commenced in proper time.

We perceive that the enemy have already commenced committing depredations on plantations near our bays and gulf, by sending their boats and barges to the plantations, and they will continue to send such expeditions to every place where they think they can get a hogshead of sugar, a barrel of molasses or a bale of cotton.

The Confederate congress has passed a resolution to adjourn on the 19th instant, and to reassemble on the third Monday in November next.

The Louisville Journal of the 10th inst., publishes a rumored report of a battle between Gen. Cox and Gen. Wise, in western Virginia, the loss being 500 of the federals and 1500 of the Confederates.

Gen. Lyon sure enough must be killed now. One account represents him as having been killed on the field of battle; another account says Siegel killed him; a third account represents him as having been killed by one of his soldiers. Certainly after having been killed three times, he must be dead, unless he is like the cats, gifted with nine lives.

Coffee is now retailing in Richmond, Virginia, at forty cents per pound. Salt at six dollars per sack.—The papers recommend a resort to potatoe and rye coffee, or a return to former custom, coffee once a week.

The Lynchburg Virginian understands that president Davis intends to put the yankee prisoners to work in Richmond, manufacturing shoes for our soldiers.

The last census of Ireland discloses the important fact, that in the last ten years, she has lost in population, three-fourths of a million.

C. Ledoux Bigee, of Alexandria, has been appointed aid-de-camp to Gov. Moore, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

It costs at least $200,000 to put a cavalry regiment in the field. The horses alone for one thousand men are worth about $140,000.

The Lafourche Union informs us that the Rev. R. A. New, methodist minister of Thibodauxville, has received the appointment of chaplain to colonel Samuel Marks' regiment. Mr. New was formerly a minister in Shreveport.

A convention of the Mississippi legislature have recommended an electoral ticket for that State to vote for president and vice-president. Four were nominated for the State at large, and one from each congressional district. This is two more than was allowed by the constitution of the United States. The electors for the State at large are, Hons. H. C. Chambers, of Calhoun; E. P. Jones, of Sunflower; Robert S. Hudson, of Yazoo; and D. C. Glenn, of Harrison. For the five districts, the following were appointed in the order named: J. Fred. Simmons, of Panola; Jefferson Wilson, of Pontotoc; James Drane, of Choctaw; T. C. Tupper, of Madison; P. S. Catchings, of Copiah.

The Georgia Recorder reports the escape of four convicts from the penitentiary at Milledgeville lately. Fourteen attempted to escape by the means of false keys. One, Wm. Rozier, sent from Muscogee, was shot dead on the spot; another, S. Gakes, also sent from the same county, fell and broke his neck; another was shot and mortally wounded; seven escaped, but three of them were caught and brought back to jail.

The Confederate congress recently passed in secret session, which president Davis has since approved, the following:

"An act to authorise the president to issue a proclamation, requiring all citizens of the United States who may now, for whatever reason, within the limits of the Confederate States, to depart within forty days from the date of such proclamation, unless they make a declaration of their intention to become citizens of the Confederate States, and unless at the same time they acknowledge the authority of the Confederate government."

Bank Disabilities—Convention.

Much difference of opinion exists as to what course our banks should or can take in regard to suspending specie payments, we copy the article below from the New Orleans Picayune, a paper well conversant with the feelings of the people of that city, and are much more familiar with bank affairs and chartered rights, than people in the "backwoods," who often undertake to write about things they cannot possibly understand.—If we have a right to make banks receive our notes, and loan us their gold and silver, certainly we have the right to go into a store and compel the merchant to divide his goods with us, or go to the planter and require a portion of his lands and negroes. If property of every description is not to be protected, then we stand upon the threshold of a fearful volcano. But to return to the Picayune's article:

"We have received, on several occasions of late, communications making inquiries into the legal status of the banks of this State, and suggesting plans for enabling them to act in concert with the banks of the other Confederate States, in receiving and paying out the treasury notes of the Confederate government, with the object of making those notes the universal currency for the transaction of all business.

Some of the inquirers assume that something may be done by legislation to relieve the banks from the penalties for the suspension of specie payments. This idea gets currency by the loose statements of the journals out of the State. Speaking of the Louisiana banks, their danger is, simply, that they would incur a forfeiture of charters, by suspending specie payments.

If this were all the consequence, there would be no difficulty. The mere forfeiture of a charter effected operation of law, could be remedied by the law-making power. The legislature is entirely competent to suspend or remove disabilities created by law, and could either sanction the suspension directly, or restore a charter with all the modifications which might be necessary to secure the object desired. The disposition of the legislature could not be doubted. They would, with absolute unanimity, as we think, pass any laws which are within their capacity, to place our banks in a condition to act in concert with those of the other Confederate States.

But the disabilities lie behind the legislature. It is prohibited by the constitution from passing the laws which the emergency seems to demand. The inhibition is found in the constitution, article 119, thus:

"The legislature shall have no power to pass any law sanctioning, in any manner, directly or indirectly, the suspension of specie payment by any person, association or corporation, issuing bank notes of any description."

We are aware that it has been suggested that the banks might, if their charters were surrendered, receive new ones, which shall give them back all their present powers, with the addition that they may carry on business specially, during the continuance of the war, with Confederate government money. But article 118 of the constitution, as amended by the recent convention, requires the legislature to make provision that "no bank shall issue from its counter any other than its own notes."

These are the disabilities under which the banks of this State labor in the present crisis of public affairs. There is no constitutional power to protect them in anywise against the effect of a suspension of specie payments upon their charters, and no constitutional capacity to provide substitutes for them with banking powers adequate to the wants of the people and the government.

We shall not consider here, at least, the various ways in which it has been proposed to enable the banks to evade these provisions. They have a certain degree of plausibility, but after all are mere evasions of a plain intent of the organic law. In times of peace, when the only legitimate function of banks is to provide facilities for peaceful commerce, without impairing the stability of the sinews on which the values of property depend, we have in Louisiana the best banking system in the world, and it has been the best administered of any in existence. But war, invasion, the suspension of commerce by a malvolent enemy, the necessities of defence for life, property and liberty against deadly assailants from abroad, need other instruments.

We have been repeatedly asked by friends in the interior, whether the State convention of last winter [illegible] this State, of things which was not foreseen when they adjourned. An intelligent correspondent, in a note received lately, inquires whether the convention cannot be called together for this purpose. He makes a point, that the convention was irregularly adjourned, there not being a quorum present when the presiding officer declared it adjourned, and is therefore not dissolved.

There is no force in the suggestion. The convention fixed a term to its own existence, by passing a vote to adjourn at a given hour on a certain day. It was ipso facto, dissolved at that time, no reconsideration having been had. The dispersal of the members was the extinction of the body. There subsists no authority to call them together, and they would have no powers if they did come. Conventions are very mighty institutions; it would be a very dangerous precedent, if after their functions had ceased, they could be irregularly revived, for any act which might be thought by themselves to be further necessary or expedient.

The only effective remedy is a new convention, for the purpose of making a provision for the State necessity which has arisen, for the suspension during the war time of such disabilities of the banks as are detrimental to the common cause.

Such a convention must emanate from the legislature direct, just as the last did. There is no other power which can reach the matter. The ordinary process of amendment would take two years before it could be incorporated into the constitution.

The legislature, to be elected next November, will specially meet in the same month, and a convention could be summoned in time to adjust these measures before the 1st of January, and to supply, by a sovereign sanction of the State, whatever well digested measures may have been previously taken, for the public good, which the existing laws may not be competent to give.

The subject was fully considered at the late Southern banks convention in Richmond, at which the banks of Louisiana were not able to be represented on account of their legal inability to coöperate in the proceedings, which it is believed their unanimous judgment approves. A resolution was proposed and adopted, soliciting the coöperation of our banks in measures for the removal of the disability, by the assembling of a State convention, if need be, and inviting the coöperation of the governor.

[For the South-Western.

SPRING RIDGE, LA., August 19, 1861.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—The gentlemen whose names are signed to the cards in your paper of the 8th and 15th instant, are too respectable in character and number to pass without notice.

I am candid in saying that I distrust my ability to discharge the duties as representative in the impending crisis of our country's history, but equally candid in saying that every citizen, however humble, owes a portion of his services to his country when required. I consent that my friends use my name for the purpose indicated in the cards.

It is not my design to canvass the parish a day or an hour, but leave the people perfectly free to vote for whom they please. If elected, I will devote my whole time and whatever ability I have to the interests of the people of Caddo parish—If defeated, I will have the consolation of knowing that the distinction was not solicited. Very briefly yours, &c.

J. A. MCRADY.

Caddo Gazette please copy.

An extract of a letter from Mobile to the editors, August 11th, says:

"I assure you there is no danger of the yankees taking Mobile, as we have here those who will spread terror in their ranks. The ladies' aid society is doing noble work, and there is hardly a woman, old or young, who is not engaged in knitting socks, or making clothes for our noble soldiers in Virginia. What do you think? I am knitting a pair of socks! I know you will sanction such employment of time. You can see most of our ladies at the spinning wheel."

Right, dear girl, it does please us beyond the power of expression, to find your fingers employed in industry, for the benefit of your suffering countrymen. If the lessons attempted to be instilled in you in childhood by the one who by destiny was destined to guide your footsteps in the paths of industry, virtue and rectitude, had any effect in forming your character, then your monitor is more than rewarded, by a knowledge of sewing seed from which good fruit sprung.

We perceive by the New Orleans Picayune, that a nest of counterfeites of half dollars, dimes and half-dimes, had been broken up on Front levee.

Indian Depredations.

We copy the following disagreeable intelligence from the Sherman (Texas) Journal:

Mr. Gosbel, of this county, arrived from fort Cobb on Thursday night, as an express from that post to Col. Young. He informs us that three thousand Kiowa Indians are encamped at the west end of the Wichita mountains, and that Capt. Diamond has given up all hope of affecting a treaty with them.

No dependence is to be placed in anything the Indians say. A few of the old men and squaws came to fort Cobb, and after being supplied with provisions, &c., promised to return in twenty days and make a treaty. But they did not arrive at the expiration of the time, and it is not believed that they will.

The following letter from our correspondent gives the particulars of the murder of Mr. Courtney's child:

[Correspondence of the Journal.

FORT COBB, I. T., July 27, 1861.—On yesterday evening a party of Kiowas, perhaps twenty or twenty-five, attacked the family of Mr. H. D. Courtenay, living about one and a half miles from this post, horribly mutilating, scalping, &c., a son aged about 7 years. The child was playing at the spring, some fifty yards from the house. The father and Mr. Dreanning were sitting on the opposite side of the house, heard the child scream, and ran to its relief with guns in hand. Mr. C. shot one off his horse. The Indians returned the fire, but without effect, and fled. Mr. C. brought us the news, and within less than an hour of the committal, seventy-five men were out in pursuit. Night came on and prevented trailing in the Washita bottom. A moccasin was found and recognised as belonging to a Kiowa by a Tonkahwa and Waco who were in camp, and went with the party.

This morning Capt. Twitty and 99 men from Capts. Diamond's, Twitty's and Throckmorton's companies, with Lieuts. Young, Houtwell and Fitzbugh, started on a six day's scout, accompanied by a party of some 40 Tonkahwa, Waco and Anadakho Indians, determined on revenge.

Believing the news will be acceptable, I hastily furnish it. Respectfully, X. Y. Z.

P. S.—Since writing, an express from Capt. Twitty says he has found the trail fresh, and is in pursuit; has found two blankets, arrows, &c.

News from Mr. Bickle, acting Indian agent, states that the Kiowas attacked Comanche camp last night, shot arrows and wounded a horse. The Comanches are in pursuit.

This country is full of wild Indians, and we need musket and six-shooter cartridges.

We are informed by Mr. Diamond of Whitesborough, who had a conversation with a gentleman direct from fort Cobb, that the company that went in pursuit of the Indians had returned to that post. They pursued the Indians till they came to buffalo, where the trail was completely destroyed, and were compelled to abandon the pursuit and return to the fort without the satisfaction of a "coutillon" with the red rascals.

The Register, says that a gentleman direct from the Cherokee nation reports that Montgomery is fortifying himself in the upper part of the nation and is stealing cattle and horses. Our people are advised to look out for him.

THE MANASSAS BATTLE.—The Concordia Intelligencer contains a translation from the New York Courier des Etats-Unis, giving the particulars of this affair.—The various accounts of this battle already published, differ so far, that we despair of ever coming to the truth. We have not as yet, seen the official returns of regiments published by the different adjutant-generals, and from the loose manner which has characterised the proceedings of both armies, induces us to believe we never shall. But let us lay before our readers what the French editor of Courier des Etats-Unis says on the subject, reminding them that prince Napoleon had visited Washington and the battle field.

"As to the number of the forces engaged on the side of the north, which they now fix at 2,000 men, there is the indisputable authority of the first bulletins, written while they thought they had the victory. Those bulletins were unanimous in fixing as above 40,000 men, the effective force of the three columns which composed the line of attack of Gen. McDowell, exclusive of the reserve left at Centreville. It is probable that the forces opposed to them by Gen. Beauregard, may have been greater in number, but certainly not double, nor treble, as they now wish us to believe.—The real superiority of the south, was in the disposition made as well before, as during the progress of the battle. As to the exact amount of the losses, there is but this to be said, that no one, at this moment knows it, neither those who put it at 6000, nor those who put it at 50. On Monday, the army which had taken refuge in the intrenchments at Arlington, did not reckon less than 10,000 men who did not answer the roll call. Where, then, are the elements for the calculation as to the numbers of the dead, the wounded, the prisoners, and the fugitives, who may hereafter, by degrees rejoin their regiments? The only data upon which a calculation can be based is the fact not disputed, that a battle continuing near twelve hours, with a fury, which all accounts concur in establishing, in which masked batteries constantly played a deadly part, and which resulted in a rout as destructive as the battle itself.—To pretend that such a day should give scarcely a few hundreds of killed and wounded, is to go against evidence, [illegible] the story of a senseless panic, breaking out among the followers of the army, which, pervading the troops, changed, by mere confusion, an assured victory into a defeat. Correspondence, written, so to say, upon the field of battle, prove that an order to retreat was given. Some explain it by saying that the ammunition of the artillery was exhausted; others, by the appearance of a new army of the enemy, but for one cause or other, the order was certainly given. An accidental disorder may doubtless have turned the retreat into a rout, but it cannot be said to have caused it. In fact, the army was repulsed and in progress of abandonment of the positions won in the morning, when it dispersed."

The Richmond Whig commenting on the northern report of the loss says:

We can furnish the Herald with the data for a calculation! After the battle there were 100 of our troops dead on the field. Down to Sunday last 240 more had died, there remaining 1000 wounded. The yankees dead on the field, by actual count, when they were buried, numbered 1300. Let the Herald multiply the number of Confederates dying after the battle, and those remaining wounded, each by fifteen—then add 2,000 for prisoners, a fair allowance for stragglers and deserters, and it may approximate the physical damage sustained by "the grand army" on the ever to be remembered 21st of July, 1861. The physical damage, we say—for the moral is beyond computation.

MASS MEETING AT LEBANON.—At a large and enthusiastic meeting held at Mount Lebanon, Bienville parish, Louisiana, on the 10th of August, 1861, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas Abraham Lincoln, president of the federal Union, has in direct violation of the constitution, and without sanction of law, assumed to blockade the ports of the southern Confederacy, and whereas Great Britain, France and other European powers, seem from motives which we cannot appreciate, to be tardy in disregarding the assumed blockade void of every principle of international law—be it

1st. Resolved therefore, That we cordially approve the patriotic and self-denying recommendations of the factors and underwriters of the city of New Orleans, and will retain our cotton on our plantations until advised by them to send it forward.

2nd. Resolved, That sooner than permit our cotton to fall into the hands of enemies, or seek a market through northern channels, we will consume with fire the last bale and trust to God and our faithful soil for the necessaries of life, cheerfully dispensing with all luxuries.

3rd. Resolved, That these resolutions be signed by the chairman and secretary, and copies transmitted to the papers of this parish and to the Crescent and Delta of New Orleans. FELIX LEWIS, Chairman.

C. J. HUMPHREYS, Sec'ry.

The Richmond correspondent of the Memphis Appeal, writes that false telegrams and rumors are all the "go" in that city. And a southern democratic paper cautions its readers against believing any news coming from Memphis. The Richmond correspondent says:

"We have no news. In the lack of this, a spurious kind is manufactured and supplied in any quantity to suit the credulous at every street corner. Sensation items, such as would make the fortune of an unscrupulous press in a large city, are in every body's mouth.—Beauregard has crossed the Potomac. Beauregard is about to assault Arlington heights. Magruder has driven the enemy from some important point. Magruder has determined to attempt fortress Monroe by storm on flats, rafts or stilts. Gen. Wise has been cut to pieces at Lewisburg, owing to the desertion of a thousand men of his command. Gen. Wise has been reinforced, and expects a general engagement immediately. Gen. Wise is marching to Cumberland gap, near Bean's station, to prevent the Kentuckians from entering Tennessee. A baloon has been seen hovering over Richmond, in the car of which could be plainly distinguished Gen. Scott. Such are some of the canards, the very lame ducks, whose gabble we hear out of doors.

The Clinton (La.) Democrat says, by a notice in today's paper, it will be seen that the company of mounted men, now being raised under the active and energetic exertions of captain Gus A. Scott, is rapidly progressing towards completion. It is composed of young men, in the full bloom and vigor of manhood, worthy and well esteemed, excellent horsemen and well versed in woodcraft. Their arms will be double barreled shotguns, with repeating holster pistols. As soon as organised, they will join Col. Hodge's battalion of mounted riflemen now being organised for the Confederate service. The officers, originally elected, desirous that all who join this company, may have a choice in their selection, cheerfully and willingly agree that a new selection shall be held. As soon as the requisite number of members are enrolled, the election will be held, of which due notice will be given.

The precise destination of Col. Hodge's battalion is as yet uncertain. But raised as it is for active service, it will soon be marched to the seat of war. Composed as the company from this parish will be of our gallant and patriotic young men, we wish them God speed in their mission, knowing that wheresoever it may be their lot to serve, they will gain distinction for themselves and reflect honor upon the parish.

Attempt to Bombard Galveston.

The Galveston News of the 1st, says: On Thursday morning a white flag was raised on one of the blockading squadron, which proceeded towards our bar, when the pilot boat Royal Yacht went out to meet her, and received from her some seventeen bags of newspapers, and three or four bags of letters, which were taken about the commencement of the blockade. The papers are of course worthless, and most of the letters had been opened. Among the unopened letters we noticed several having specie in them, and others that had the appearance of having valuable contents. It would seem by this that appropriating private funds was not Capt. Alden's purpose in opening the mails.

We were surprised to find that a much larger proportion of letters directed to ladies were opened than of those directed to gentlemen. There were but few of the letters for this city, from which we conclude that Capt. Alden found it convenient to keep most of the letters to persons in this city. We understand the blockaders have received information of the battle of Bull's run and Manassas.

The News has a long account of two engagements, on the 3d inst., between the blockading force and the batteries on shore.

It appears that at half past eight o'clock in the morning, the schooner Dart, one of the blockading mosquito fleet, came within range of two of the shore batteries, although the blockaders had been previously warned that they would be fired on if they came within range. The batteries were quickly manned, and fire opened on the schooner. The batteries fired six shots and the Dart five—nobody hurt—and the schooner, soon as possible, got out of range.

The skirmish created considerable excitement in the city, and the question was asked, what would captain Alden (commanding the blockading steamship South Carolina) do, now that the Dart had been fired on?

In the afternoon the question was answered. The South Carolina, with one of her armed prizes in tow, and followed by the Dart, left her usual station off Bolivar peninsula; east of the city, between 3 and 4 o'clock, and came down the island, some 4 or 5 miles off shore, to a point opposite the extreme east end of the city. There she turned, dropping the vessel in tow, which remained there; and the propeller run up towards the bar, to nearly opposite the two beach batteries, in charge of Capt. Schneider's Turner Rifles, from Houston.

In the meantime our steamer, the Gen. Rusk, Capt. Leon Smith, being armed and manned, got up steam and moved towards the bar—perhaps to run out and catch one or two of the "mosquito" fleet, should the steamer give her a chance, or perhaps simply to keep a sharp look out.

This move attracted the propeller's notice, and for a while she seemed disposed to wait for the Rusk; but presently she wheeled to the west, moved down a short distance, turned her prow eastward, and coming in to about two miles from the shore, moved slowly and steadily towards our batteries.

Col. Moore had speedily repaired to the batteries. He was accompanied by several volunteers, Capt. Andrew Neil, of Galveston Guards, B; Lieut. Mason, of Galveston Rifles; Mr. Hamilton, and Mr. Cave, of the Civilian, who promptly offered his services as aid-de-camp, and they were at once accepted.

Col. Moore, while superintending both batteries, took personal charge of gun No. 1 in the Tremont street battery, and Messrs. Neill, Mason and Hamilton assisted in working it. The second piece in this battery was in charge of ordinance sergeant G. H. Schoeder, Lieut. Willrich in command of the men. In the second battery, which is about 400 yards to the east of the other, Lieut. Rottenstein and sergeant Brunow had charge of the two big black 32-pounders. Capt. Schneider, who was an officer in the Prussian service, and is a strict disciplinarian as well as a cool and active commander, assisted Col. Moore in his general duties.

The Dart came sailing down in front of the batteries, doubtless to draw her fire, but this was of no avail. The steamer had now come almost to a standstill. She was within range, and seemed to dare attack. She had not long to wait. Col. Moore sighted No. 1 at her, and in a moment after the white smoke rose above the breastworks, and the thundering report that shook the earth and filled the air announced that the contest had begun.

All eyes now turned to the steamer. In a minute, a puff of white smoke issued from her prow, as she still continued to move slowly on; the heavy report rang out; and then the sharp hum of a shell was distinctly heard.

Again, again, and again this slow interchange of shots took place, the intervals pretty regular between each. Our first shots were delivered steadily, and evidently with care; they were in line and went nearer the propeller each time, and one struck so near her, amidships, that from various parts of the city, far distant from each other, as we have since learned, the remark was simultaneous: "That hit her!"

Capt. Alden now began, however—much to our mingled astonishment and indignation—to fire shells over the city. He had endeavored to enfilade the guns in the batteries, but his gunners failed to hit either the sand bags or the men around and near them. He doubtless then bethought him that, as he had succeeded so well in opening ladies' letters, he would be as triumphant in frightening, or injuring our women and children. May his memory be infamous for the dastardly deed!

Several large shells exploded high in the air, the pieces flying in all directions. One piece tore through the roof of Mr. Bo[illegible] on Nicholls's residences on Broadway. It went through the pantry, next to the kitchen, and through the outer plank wall into the yard. We heard of a piece falling at south side of the public square, penetrating the roof and floor of Mr. J. Dyke[illegible]man's portico; an entire bomb at Mr. Gose's foundry, a piece going to the first ward market, and one shell burying itself near Smyth's garden, but none, fortunately, hitting any one, though some narrow escapes were had.

We were shown a 32-pound ball that was said to have been picked up in the street near Broadway and Tremont. We have been informed, also, that some of the shells were found, unexploded, but we cannot hear that any of the gallant Alden's missiles came nearer than the further part of Mr. League's new hotel, lot, on Tremont street, south of the bayou, or about half a mile from the gulf. This is considered, by many, as the range of the propeller's guns, from her nearest safe approach to the shore, opposite the beach batteries.

The British consul's residence is near Mr. League's, and his flag was flying, as it has been for a month, at an elevation that it can easily be seen at a great distance. Another consular flag was up, further in the city, northeast of Mr. League's, but the hostile shell paid no attention to them. Of course, a man who would fire at women and children would care but little for other observances of civilized warfare.

A large number of people having collected on and near the sand hills, a little to the eastward of the batteries, to gratify their curiosity, a shell fell among them, apparently directed for the purpose, cutting one man in two, and carrying away most of his body between the shoulders and hips, and exploding about the same time. Some two or three others were slightly wounded with the pieces, one of whom is a son of Mr. Menard, our worthy deputy collector. The name of the man killed was Frank Sylva, an Italian or Portuguese, whose occupation, we understand was selling fruits, &c. The remainder of his body was buried the same evening.

This, we believe, was all the harm that was done by the first attempt to bombard our city. The firing continued about half an hour. Some of the shells measured ten inches in diameter, and must have been thrown by a 68-pounder, said to be the steamer's pivot gun.

During this cannon duello, the houses of our city were crowded with people looking at the spectacle, which was in full view from most of our larger buildings, and from many of the upper branches. Many who could not there get a view, went to the beach or near there, their curiosity overpowering their sense of the danger.

During the firing the city rang with the shouts of the people from the roofs and balconies at every discharge from the batteries, and even the ladies participated in the enthusiasm of the excitement, manifesting the utmost anxiety to see our shot strike the steamer and sink her. The general indignation at the outrageous attempt to bombard the city without giving notice, and without just provocation, equally endangering the lives of women, children and servants, was so great that it seemed to overpower the sense of danger even among our females.

Some twelve or fourteen shots were exchanged between the shore and the steamer. She then moved out to sea, firing a last shell, and our guns replied. A number of careful lookers-on report that with their glasses they distinctly saw a boat, or something like it, lowered over her side as she turned away, and this, it is thought, to plug or examine a shot hole in her side. It is also thought that her pivot gun was capsized from being raised at too great an angle, as a large number of men and officers were seen bending over it.

The Dart had soon got out of range and followed the steamer, which speedily resumed her old position east of the bar and off Bolivar peninsula. There she has remained up to the time of writing this—Monday afternoon.

The News of the 6th has the following:

We understand that yesterday all the foreign consuls united in signing a letter to Capt. Alden, in which they remonstrated in the strongest terms against his firing into the city on Saturday afternoon last, without the warning that is invariably given to remove the women and children, the sick, and those incapable of taking up arms. This protest was transmitted to Col. Moore, and we are informed will be sent out to Capt. Alden under a white flag.

Capt. A. will doubtless pay as little attention to this letter as he did in firing over and very near the flag of Great Britain and of Hanover, floating above the residences of the consuls of those nations. A representation of the facts will, we presume, go to lord Lyons and to Richmond.

NATIVE LOUISIANIANS IN LINCOLN'S ARMY.—In the published list of appointments, made by Lincoln and confirmed by the senate, to the new regiments of the United States army, we find the following:

Henry C. Capen, of volunteers, to be first lieutenant, May 14, 1861, born in Louisiana.

Wm. J. Slidell, of Louisiana, to be first lieutenant, May 14, 1861, born in Louisiana.

Henry A. Swarwout of New York, to be first lieutenant, May 14, 1861, born in Louisiana.

The Levaca Gulf Key says that a foundry for the casting of cannon has been established in that town, and that every thing is in the course of successful operation. All necessary machinery has been put up, and the best founders and artists that can be found in any part of the world have been engaged.

The Missouri Battles.

MEMPHIS, August 16.—Special dispatches from Little Rock this morning, brings dates from fort Smith to the 14th instant.

The news of McCulloch's victory is fully confirmed.

The fight occurred Saturday night, eight miles south of Springfield. The enemy took the Confederate pickets prisoners, and surprised the main body. A bloody and desperate encounter ensued, with great loss of life on both sides.

Five regiments of Missourians were thrown into a panic, and fled. Gen. Price made two ineffectual efforts to rally them.

The Louisiana regiment fought gallantly and suffered much.

Gen. Price lead the 3d and 4th Arkansas regiments of troops in person, and made a very splendid charge.

A letter from McCulloch, dated the 11th inst. says:

"The victory is ours. The battle lasted six hours and a half. Our loss is great. Lyon is among the dead. We took six pieces of artillery from Seigel, destroyed his command, captured many prisoners and small arms. Cannot give the particulars, but write this to correct the reports of those who fled from the field."

The Confederate loss is from two to three hundred killed, and four to five hundred wounded. Among the killed on our side, is major Harper, of Churchill's regiment; captain H. T. Brown, Lieut. Joe Walton, Capt. Bell, Lieut. Weaver, and sergeant Saml. Morton, Maj. Ward, of the 3d regiment, lost his arm, and it is said will die.

Captain Stewart's company suffered greatly. Thirty or forty of Col. Carroll's regiment were killed. Major Wrightman, a gallant Missouri officer, was killed.

Seigel's forces were pursued to Springfield, and when the messenger left it was thought McCulloch would attack them there.

Captain Blank caught Seigell, but he was rescued from him. He then shot at Seigel and thinks that he wounded him.

Col. Sweeney, of the federal army, was killed. The enemy's loss is from 2500 to 3000.

The following dispatch was received at fort Smith:

FAYETTE, August 13.—McCulloch sent forces after Seigel's command. About 20 miles from Springfield, Gen. Hardee met and captured the whole of the federal forces, and is bringing them back, thus making a clean thing of it. A messenger is just in. C. H. STIVMAN.

The southerners had twenty-one pieces of artillery at the late battle. Seigel lost five guns. Col. Brand, a southern lieutenant was captured.

The following additional federal captains were killed: Mason Brown and Shaefer. Captains Gottschalk—Swift and Gilbert were wounded.

Gen. Seigel had a severe struggle, and left three of his four guns on the field, spiking them.

The southerners camp took fire, and was destroyed.

ROLLA, (Mo.) August 13.—The following account of the battle has been furnished by an eye witness, who left Springfield on Sunday morning.

The fight raged from six o'clock in the morning till two in the afternoon. The southerners charged Tatten's battery three times before capturing it.

Lyon fell early in the action. Seigel had a severe struggle, and left three of his four guns on the field, spiking them. The southerns' camp took fire and was destroyed. The federalists lost captain Gratze, killed; Gen. Sweeney was wounded in the leg; Col. Mitchell, captain Plummer, captain Miller, captain Cavander, captain Burk, colonel Ditzberg, and captain McFarland are seriously wounded. Major Sheubard was slightly wounded. Five lieutenants were killed. Price was not killed, as reported. It was rumored on the field that McCulloch was killed, but the report was denied Saturday night. Dr. Mencher left Springfield with ambulances to see about the killed and wounded. Gen. Lyon's body had been treated with great respect.

ROLLA, August 15.—Seigel is within fifty miles west of this place, and encamped on the Gasconade river.—Twenty wagons with fugitives have arrived here.

The stage-line to Springfield has been abandoned, and the stock brought to this place.

BATTLE AT ATHENS.—We have been furnished the following letter, written by a gentleman at Athens, giving an entirely different account of the battle at that place. The gentleman who furnishes the letter endorses the reliability of the writer:

Col. Martin Green (brother of ex-senator Green,) at the head of 450 men, who had been organised under the military bill, attacked Col. Moore, whose force numbered 650, and drove them across Des Moines river, where Moore was reinforced from Keosauqua and other towns above. Green attacked them a second time, drove them before him, until Col. Moore was reinforced again, when after a hard fight Green retreated, carrying off their two pieces of artillery, wounded, etc. Green had to fight in all from two to three thousand men, yet his boys fought with all the coolness of veterans, and drove them back in every hand to hand fight.

Among the State troops who were killed, eight in all, were some of our best men. The following names are all I have obtained: Jos. Ewalt, Eli Barber, Mr. Moore, Mr. Williams, and Y. Boyles, all living in this neighborhood.

There is no doubt but the federals lost from two to three hundred men in killed and wounded.

The country is thoroughly aroused, and the masses are very indignant at the intermeddling, with their rights by the people of Illinois and Iowa, who, at the instance and throughout of every intermeddling, cowardly black-republican, send their armed hordes to rob and murder our best citizens.

ST. LOUIS, Aug 16.—The Morning Herald, issued an extra this evening containing the following from the north-west:

On last Monday, a fight took place at Edina, Knox county, Mo., in which the State troops attacked a body of Home Guards, placed there in charge of a large amount of arms and ammunition. The State forces drove the Home Guards out of the town and seized the property. Only some eight or ten having been killed and wounded on both sides.

On Thursday the Home Guards were reinforced by federal troops from Keokuk, when they drove the State forces out of the town. The State forces retreated, taking with them all of the arms and ammunition captured, amounting to some 500 stand of arms and 2000 rounds of ball cartridge.

On Wednesday the State forces having been reinforced by a body under Col. Martin Green, retook Edina, and expelled the invaders. The loss in all these skirmishes, our informant says will not exceed fifty killed and wounded on both sides.

As the Iowa regiments have all left Keokuk, it is not expected any further attack will be made on the State forces at that point.

A GREAT BATTLE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN FOUGHT BETWEEN GENS. ROSENCRANS AND WISE.—The Louisville Journal of Saturday, 10th, says:

The steamer Ida May arrived at Cincinnati yesterday from point Pleasant, Virginia. The Cincinnati Commercial says that at that point and at all the towns along the river, there was a report, believed to be true, that Gen. Rosencrans had intercepted the Confederate forces under Gen. Wise, at a place twenty miles beyond Gauley bridge, and defeated him in a hard fought battle. The reported Confederate loss was 1500, and that of the federal forces only 500. The report at all the towns above Ironton was brought by a Mr. Barbour, from the camp of Gen. Cox, at Gauley bridge. This gentleman, who is said to be a merchant of respectability and influence at Ironton, professes to have seen the dispatch from Rosencrans to Cox. He also says that after the battle, Wise, finding his condition desperate, surrendered himself and all his forces prisoners of war. At the mouth of the Big Sandy, it is said that a Confederate deserter told the same story. This news is believed along the Virginia shore.

APPEAL FOR SMALL ARMS.—We find the following appeal to the citizens of Louisiana published in the New Orleans papers, and hope it will meet with a proper response:

To the citizens of Louisiana and the adjoining States,

Having been appointed by the secretary of war an agent to collect, receive and purchase small arms for the Confederate States, I deem it necessary and expedient to make known the fact as generally as possible, the better to secure coöperation in a work which needs to be done quickly.

Citizens and patriots! Your government asks for the many thousands of tried guns that lie unused in your houses. Recent experiments have proven that any one of your fine double-barreled shot guns, with the improved Minie ball, is more than a match for the much talked of Minie musket. Then bring them forth, and place them upon the altar of your country's liberty, that they may be at once consecrated to the noble work of christian defense. If objection be made to sending away your guns, and it be urged that you may need them at home, the reply is, that the surest way to prevent the necessity of using them at home is to place them in the hands of the thousands of brave men who are now chafing with anxious desire to stand as a wall of fire between you and the invading foe. If this answer be deemed inconclusive, then the reflection that those high in authority—those in whose judgment we have confidence, and who, it is but fair to presume, know well our necessities both at home and on our borders—have after mature deliberation inaugurated this movement, should be a sufficient guarantee for the wisdom, utility and patriotism of the service you are called on to perform. Then, as you desire a short war, a speedy peace, and an acknowledgment of our independence honorable to ourselves, place your weapons at the disposal of your government. As you desire to strike terror to the hearts of those now plotting our subjugation and destruction, let it be known that the trusty rifle, and the death dealing shot gun which you have hitherto so highly prized, are to take part in the next conflict, rendering, if possible, our victory more complete, than was their defeat and rout on the plains of Manassas. My instructions contemplate that I shall send forth into our more populous regions, assistant agents, charged with the duty of collecting and forwarding to proper points all the weapons thus obtained. It may be well here to state that any one who wishes to do so, even though he be not visited by an agent, can greatly facilitate this work by sending any guns