FROM GEN. HALLECK'S ARMY.

Arrival of Gen. Grant—Developments of the Highest Importance Impending—The Enemy—A Summer Campaign Probable—Sanitary Considerations—The Case of Major-Gen. Mitchel.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CORINTH, Miss., July 18, 1862.

Corinth is laboring under another sensation. Another distinguished, mysterious, tongue-moving arrival has taken place. Gen. Grant most unexpectedly emerged out of last night's train from Columbus. Like Gov. Sprague, he repaired immediately to Gen. Halleck's headquarters, with whom he had a consultation protracted until late in the night. This morning the two Generals met again at an early hour, and were privately engaged all the morning.

It can be imagined, that the minds and tongues of the entire community have been busy in speculating about, and discussing this second sensational visit in the course of a week. A multitude of more or less likely constructions have again been set afloat as to its meaning, but, of course, nothing positive ascertained upon the subject. I *know*, however, that Gen. Grant will make a prolonged stay, and am satisfied that I will not run the risk of being found a false prophet by stating that he will assume chief command here, and that Gen. Halleck and staff are about departing—whither, I am not prepared to say. There is a strong belief, that the Commander-in-Chief of the Western Department will from next week be officially engaged in other latitudes—some think as Secretary of War and others as commander of a powerful corps to be made up from the best troops of the various Western armies for the re-enforcement of General McClellan. As stated, these two points represent only the divided belief of the public. Knew I aught of a positive character as to the correctness of the latter surmise, I would, of course, not feel at liberty to make premature revelations that might possibly be attended with serious consequences. Before the end of the present week I expect to see the mist now enveloping the future movements of Gen. Halleck cleared away. Whatever may be his ultimate destination, it appears certain that Gov. Sprague's mission brought it about.

Of Gen. Grant's staff only Col. Lagow and Maj. R. will go accompanied him to this place. The remainder will stay in Memphis for the present.

All accounts from Central Mississippi agree that every portion of the Rebel forces in that quarter has lately been in motion. Retrograde movements are reported to have taken place in each of the three lines the enemy held since the evacuation of Corinth and the fall of Memphis, viz: the Mississippi and Tennessee, Mississippi Central, and Mobile and Ohio Railroads. From all three this forces have been converging upon the line of the Southern Mississippi Railroad, and are now stationed in three bodies, respectively, at Vicksburg, Jackson, and Meridian. It seems hardly probable, as some of the military here contend, that this general falling back means in reality only a concentration for aggressive purposes. It would be passing strange if the enemy should make long, wearisome marches in these dog-days to reach a fine base of operations, furnish such part of his army easy communication with all others, only to abandon it and march again great distances to hunt up the adversary instead of quietly awaiting his approach. It appears more likely that he expects the employment of a strong Union land force to cooperate with the two fleets in the reduction of Vicksburg, and by concentration on a single line simply provides against a flank movement and the demonstration in his front he will naturally look for simultaneously with the combined attack by land and water on Vicksburg.

Whatever the true meaning of the late movements of the enemy may be, I deem it certain that the Western army, instead of a Summer rest will have a Summer campaign. The contingencies, to the possible occurrence of which I referred in this correspondence weeks ago, as the only occasion for the interruption of the Summer repose of Gen. Halleck's army, have taken place. Had the siege of Richmond terminated successfully, active operations would have probably ceased everywhere until the return of cooler weather. But a reverse, instead of a triumph, having befallen the Union arms on the Peninsula, the clash of arms will not die away, but be resumed with greater force when over a Union contents a Rebel army. The loyal armies form as many integral parts of one body, the activity of one of which conditions and implies that of all others. I cannot be supposed for a moment that, while a struggle for life or death is preparing in the East between the Army of the Potomac and perhaps two-thirds of all the forces the Rebels have in the field, the hundreds of thousands of effective troops in the West should continue passive lookers-on. It would be like a wrestler, in which one of the engaged parties had the use of only one, while the other had it of all limbs. No, the pressure upon McClellan on James River was to be counteracted by striking at some vital Rebel point in the West! Hence, I am confident, that aggressive Union action in the Cotton States will be re-inaugurated either at the same time with, or previous to, the second attempt to take the Rebel capital. To devise plans for a summer campaign, I have no doubt, is part of the object of General Grant's visit.

The experience of the last six weeks of comparative idleness of the greater part of Gen. Halleck's army has demonstrated that quiet camp-life, while it would furnish opportunity for mending the deficiencies of the army in drill and discipline, would eventually contribute but little, if anything to its physical improvement. In the early part of June, its sanitary condition changed considerably for the better, owing, it is now held by medical authorities, to the recuperation from the effect of the extreme inclemency of the weather in the first days, and the exhausting trench labors in the last days of the siege. But during the last few weeks, the progress of the hot season and climatical influences generally have again swelled the sick-lists to a considerable extent, and the opinion is now prevalent that the empirical axiom, viz: activity affects the health of the army less than inertion, holds good even in this latitude. With the uniformly cool nights, mornings, and evenings, and judicious management of marches, a campaign can be doubtlessly made even with less detriment to the health of the troops during the Summer than during the last rainy Winter.

I am persuaded that the loyal public will do well not to be led into hasty judgment in the case of Maj.-Gen. Mitchel by the denunciations of authorities of such doubtful loyalty as *The Louisville Journal*. Information from trustworthy parties, perfectly conversant with the merits of his case, warrants me in saying that the bitter, unmeasured language of that organ of conditional Unionism is entirely uncalled for. It called upon for specifications of its sweeping charges, the main ground of its howl would be found to be Gen. Mitchel's liberal treatment of the contraband question. This, together with overworking of his troops in his unbounded zeal, some imprudent movements, traceable to his restless energy, his failure to punish the depredations of portions of his command, due probably to the impossibility of prevention, in consequence of the scattering of his troops along the line of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, and the smallness of his force, necessitating the constant service of every available officer and soldier; and last, but not least, the pique always borne toward him by his brother generals, will be found, in due course of time, to be the sum and substance of the offences charged against him.

CHANGE THE SOLDIER'S DIET.

Concentrated Food the Curse of the Army—Something Sensible for the Sanitary People to Do.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

CANAAN, July 16, 1862.

I have just received the following letter from one of the most intelligent officers in the army, that is now undergoing Hard Bread at Harrison's Landing, and facing the most fatal form of death to the American soldier—death in the Frying Pan. Every word that he utters is truth. Organizations and individuals, whose privilege it is to endeavor to preserve the health and maintain the fighting vigor of our armies in the field, will do well to lay to heart the vital truth of this earnest officer's appeal.

I seem to have utterly failed in my constant letter-writing from the York and James Rivers Peninsula, to have communicated to the public the truth, that hard bread, pork, and fresh beef cooked in grease in a frying-pan—the offer to sell which by a sutler, or the mere having it in his possession within sight of a soldier, should be punished with death—will establish scurvy in an army as surely as in the ice-bound life of sailors on board ship under the Arctic circle. And yet how simple the remedy is. Make the soldier toast his meat on the end of a stick, smash up his frying-pan, and then let some of the people who are fussing over him in the way of hard-tacks and moral pocket-handkerchiefs, see that occasionally a little sloop loaded with onions and potatoes sail from the port most accessible to their benevolence, for Harrison's Landing and the more central regiments. It would not take a fleet of these little vessels, chartered by kind women and generous men, and freighted principally with these two vegetables, from Hartford, New-Haven, New-York, and Newark, to keep the army in Virginia supplied with the elements of health. Could pickles, cured with vinegar, and not the sulphuric acid of the dealers, and especially dried apples, be added to the vegetables, it would be so much the better. What would be vastly better yet, would be the regimental kitchen, and the commutation of the soldiers' rations partly into cash and partly into a mess fund. But this is not at present to be hoped for. Let us take the good that is in our reach. Some day a humane general, with the administrative genius that Butterfield possesses, will add to its justly-earned reputation as a soldier, the distinction of having reformed the diet of the army, and saved the country at least ten millions a year, by inducing the War Department to follow the example he shall have successfully set of feeding five regiments healthfully and economically through an organization of regimental cooks. There is not the least difficulty whatever in doing it.

Mr. Recesse of the Delavan House in Albany would organize the feeding of the army in Virginia in a week's time, and enormously reduce the expenses of the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments, and lift up the American soldier from the pit of that difficulty that he should never have been dropped into—cooking for himself. He can't do it. He only poisons himself in the endeavor.

What my friend says about Commissary Whisky reminds me of a duty to this devil's drink. Is Dayton the name of a place—and is Dayton the name of the whisky that one town in Ohio has been baptized with to eternal infamy by every regiment in the Army of the Potomac? 'Twas that particular brand of poison that I have seen corrugate the throat of the wet and weary soldier who took it to restore his heart, seen it twist and wrinkle the passage to his stomach that fought instinctively against its admission, and seen it fill his eyes with tears, and make the whole nervous network of the man crawl and shrink from its blasting flow. Yet the time upon which this wrestling invariably took place had no garland of sulphur flames crowning it, nor did an invisible hand press it to the soldier's lips from out of the dark. Its liquor came from Dayton; and is not Dayton the name of an Ohio city? "Taxidermist whisky" we called it in the seething Left Wing—and the story we told of it, when the hot fingers of the Chickahominy typhus stole, with its insidiously stroking fingers, the vigor and happiness out of us from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot, was, that the corn-juice of the variety popularly known as "rot-gut," used to preserve, in glass jars and elsewhere, monstrous animal births and specimens that surgeons horribly delight in, and the double-headed snakes and horned reptiles dear to naturalists not humanized by marriage, when it got to acid as to cut through and destroy what it was designed to save, was patriotically barreled up and sent off to the soldiers in Virginia, to be drunk by them when exhausted with labor in the trenches. Dayton in Ohio, or Dayton somewhere or somewhat—thousands and thousands of bayonets itched for you in the army of the Potomac, in the feverish month of June. You poisoned good men, and made the tears of the sensitive to flow. Most fitly did the surgeons of the entire army, in convention at the Antioch Church, unanimously vote you to be a curse—and most fitly, upon the credit of your individual, rascally account, was a general order issued revoking the whisky ration.

But, to my friend's letter. S. W.

CAMP AT HARRISON'S LANDING, Va., July 14, 1862.

DEAR W.: I only wish I had lungs of thunder, to make myself heard in every right quarter, about the health and necessities of this Army of the Potomac. *There must be a change of diet!* The sick list, already fearful, is growing larger every day. In one regiment, the 6th Illinois Cavalry, as good and as temperate a set of men as can be found in the service, there are about 120 men unfit for duty. The food is too concentrated. Hard bread of none to good a quality, and fresh beef, or salt pork, is the fatal diet given out every day on which to build up healthy soldiers. *It can't be done.* No vegetables are to be had, none are furnished. No fruit to be had, none is furnished. No coarse flour or corn meal to be had, none is furnished. Crackers and meat one day, and meat and crackers the next.

Now we must have a change. *There must be fruit*, if there cannot be vegetables furnished. There must be corn meal and Graham flour to take the place, at least part of the time, of this hard bread—the soldier's curse. It is not bad water of which we have most to complain, though that is none too good; but it is a constant rental of unpalatable and concentrated food which is filling up the hospitals and thinning off the ranks.

Many lay it to the water, and old fory doctors recommend whisky as an antidote. The whisky furnished is of the most execrable character, and yet it is and the commissary whisky is better than that used by the medical department.

I believe, from experience and observation, and I have been with the army ever since it left Alexandria for the Peninsula, that if dried apples and dried peaches, of which the North has plenty, were furnished regularly to the soldiers, with plenty of sugar to season them nicely, it would be far more a savior of health, and far more satisfactory to men in the army, than whisky, or any other unnatural stimulant.

Vegetables should be furnished just as far as it can be done; but fruit, or vegetables, *should always be supplied, and they can be.*

"An ounce of preventive is worth a pound of cure;" and if half the well meaning effort which is put forth by "Sanitary Commissions" and by the various "Soldiers Aid Societies," were turned to supplying or in having the soldiers supplied with good wholesome food—fruits, coarse flours and meal, and *in seeing that it is properly cooked*, they would save hundreds from sickness, instead of having to cure them of lingering diseases in the hospitals.

The food of the soldiers is not *properly* cooked—not *half* cooked—not *cooked* at all. There is more need of reform in this respect than in almost any other. Many of the men not actually in the hospitals are unfit for duty, out of heart and spirits, because their food is indigestible and unpalatable. They need fruit for a relish. Food without a relish may be better than no food, but that is all; it is not healthy.

Soldiers are said to be "home-sick," and many of the physicians tell me that this is really one of their worst diseases; but the fact is this "home-sickness" is not a cause, but an effect of disease, the foundations of which are laid in the use of highly concentrated, unsavory, badly cooked food.

This leads me to consider another subject, which may lead to another and yet another; nevertheless it must be considered.

There are thousands of negro men and women in this region (by looking at THE TRIBUNE of the 11th I see that there are 2700 of more slaves in Charles City County, Va., the one where our army now is—while the free population is but little over 2,000, black and white. These men and women are *workers*, and *cooks*, and *workers*, and if a proper number were employed to *dig the trenches, carry the knapsacks, drive all the teams, take care of the cavalry and other horses*, and do *the cooking of our regiments* as well as *the washing*, it would be worth about as much as it would be to duplicate the numbers of the regiments, for *one half* the number of soldiers, well fed and clean, and not jaded out by fatigue—which takes all heart out of them—would be equal to the whole as they are.

These negro women are good cooks, and the men are good workers. The most fastidious Democrat would not object to their *digging*, and *chopping*, and *cooking*, while our soldiers were treated, to be ready for the battle. *Why not employ them?* Why wait until they come to our camps for protection? They are the slaves of open and active Rebels, in nine cases out of ten. Why not take them, and thus save our soldiers, while we bless *them*, by giving them paying employment? Why not? I repeat, *Why not?* Here they are, stretching out their hands for salvation from their Rebel masters, and ourselves held at bay by arguments sustained by slave-fed heads! Why don't President Lincoln order a policy which our Generals shall pursue in reference to these slaves of Rebel masters, most of whom are now in the Rebel army? It does not do, has not done, nor will it ever answer, to leave this matter an open question to be settled or left unsettled by each General. The salvation of the negroes, the salvation and health of our army, and the salvation of our country, depend upon the settlement of this question, and upon the immediate employment of these colored people in the putting down of this gigantic rebellion. Yours, truly, —

FROM ROANOKE ISLAND.

Departure of Troops—Removal of Contrabands—The North Carolina Battalion.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

ROANOKE ISLAND, N. C., July 11, 1862.

Events here during the past two weeks have been of a stirring character. Col. Hawkins's brigade has been under orders for a move to some point, where we all knew active operations were on foot. All hands have been full of enthusiasm at the prospect of active service, and none more so than our gallant Colonel. Yesterday the last of the troops moved from the island, succeeded by a sufficient force of fresh troops, who remain here to command the island. A detachment of the Zouaves still remain here, under Capt. A. S. Graham, who commands the post till Col. Howard, of the Marine Artillery, arrives. The main body of the regiment, under Lieut.-Col. Kimball, together with the 89th New-York, under Col. Fairchild, embarked on the steamers Ocean Wave, Pilot Boy, and Patuxent; but for what special service I am not at liberty to tell.

Matters on the Island are quiet now. There is none of the life and spirit always enjoyed where the Zouaves are, for they have had their theater, their debating club, their gymnasium, and their ball clubs, all which sports are now dispensed with. The place is now thoroughly "given over," and looks like as if it were thoroughly subjugated and brought to its senses. The natives are very sorry the "Red Caps" have gone away, for they made "right smart" of money out of them, and no wonder, for they sold milk at 50 cents per gallon, and all other articles accordingly. The natives do not now and never have been able to understand how it is that most all our men read and write, while only so few of them can. I tell them I know—the Zouaves and all the rest of our men are from Free States, while they are in a Slave State, but the poor creatures are blind to the fact; they hear it mentioned with strange indifference.

The black mantle of Slavery is around this country. Slavery benights the people, wastes and desolates the rich soil, and breeds nothing but rottenness and ruin everywhere. An old clergyman (the Rev. A. Twine), who has resided here for many years as a preacher among the people, says, "that so far as he is concerned he knows Slavery to be at the root of all our present evils; and not only so, but he knows it to be at the root of all the prevailing evils by which the course of the South has been backward and downward." Many at home in the North appear to be utterly blind and deaf to the force of such testimony. The continuance of the rebellion, and the increase of testimony against Slavery will, in the minds of the soldiers and, I trust, the people too, rouse them to a proper comprehension of the fact which the old minister has uttered.

With the troops yesterday went nearly all the "contrabands," although not in the same direction. The poor creatures were marched out of camp in great haste. They formed a long but melancholy procession. As they moved along, fathers carrying sometimes one, two, and three little children on their arms, together with huge packs of bedding or furniture on both their heads and backs, and mothers equally loaded, no sight could be more sad. There they moved, willing, anxious, sad. Each face was a picture of deep emotion and concern. They did not know whether they were going to fall into the same scale with some whom Gov Stanly has already restored to their cruel task-masters, or whether they were going to be transported to a foreign land. They moved along briskly, yet not knowing whither they were going. I must confess that the hardness of heart some appear to exercise toward this poor race, finds in me less and less sympathy the more I see of them. They are gone to Newbern, but for what purpose I will soon inform you. I only trust they will find there a man whose policy toward them has been as wise and humane as that of Col. Hawkins here. Here they had already inaugurated the appliances of civilization and religion. Nearly every man, woman, and child had a spelling-book, while a good and intelligent man had been selected by Rev. Mr. Conway, Chaplain of the Zouaves, and properly authorized to preach to them. By this arrangement a Baptist church, named by them "The Church in the Wilderness," had already been organized, into whose fellowship Mr. Conway was about to baptize twenty men and thirty women, when the poor pilgrims were ordered away.

Burnside is reported on the James River. The troops who left here have gone to join him. Company F, of the Zouaves, are yet at Plymouth, N. C., organizing and drilling the North Carolina Battalion. Captain Hammell is doing excellent service for the country in that neighborhood. The North Carolinians, who enlist in the army of the Union, eager and ready to fight under the old flag, are reported to be in considerable numbers. They have proved themselves entirely trustworthy. From all that I can learn from officers and soldiers, the extinction of Slavery from the country is regarded as the natural end to which events are bringing us, as well as that which they, as a general thing, believed to be the safest guard against a repetition of civil war, when this one is ended. The march of freedom is onward. Thank God. Let us take courage. C.

LOSSES IN GEN. McCALL'S DIVISION.

The official losses reported in Gen. McCall's division, Pennsylvania Reserves, in the late battles before Richmond, are: Officers killed, 15; wounded, 70; missing, 56. Men killed, 240, wounded, 1,174; missing, 1,528. Total, 3,085.

A SKIRMISH IN ARKANSAS.

TWENTY-ONE GUERRILLAS KILLED.

From The St. Louis Republican, July 13.

An expedition sent to Fayetteville, Arkansas, by Brig.-Gen. Brown, commanding South-West Missouri, consisting of one section of Davidson's battery, two mountain howitzers, and detachments of the 10th Illinois, 2d Wisconsin, and 3d Missouri State Militia, numbering not over six hundred, under command of Major Miller, of the 3d Wisconsin cavalry, attacked the combined forces of Rains, Coffee, Hunter, Hawthorne and Tracy, numbering about sixteen hundred, near eight miles beyond Fayetteville, at sunrise Tuesday morning, defeating and routing them completely.

The enemy's camps were shelled, followed by cavalry charges, and their forces scattered in every direction, and the main body was pursued for 12 miles, and the pursuit was then given up, as the horses of our troops were tired out.

Major Miller made a march of 75 miles in 36 hours, marching during two nights, and hiding in the woods during the day, and completely surprised the Rebels.

No detailed report had reached Springfield. The loss of the enemy was large, and of the United States forces small.

The command of Major Miller returned to Fayetteville on Tuesday night.

Col. Hall of the 4th Missouri State Militia, stationed at Mount Vernon, reports the capture of 1,200 pigs of lead near Granby, and the killing of 21 guerrillas during the past few days. He has not had a man of his command killed, but lost a few horses.

THE CHARGES AGAINST GEN. MITCHEL.

TESTIMONY OF COL. NORTON.

The following is an abstract of the testimony of Col. Norton of the Twenty-first Ohio Regiment, before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, in reference to Gen. Mitchel:

Col. J. S. Norton, Twenty-first Ohio Volunteers, submitted the following brief statement in regard to the conduct of the officers and soldiers under the command of Gen. Mitchel, of the Third Division of the Army of the Ohio, in North Alabama:

I claim, in the first place, that Gen. Mitchel took possession of cotton in a rebel fortification, and sold that cotton for three cents per pound to a man by the name of Clark, when he was offered seven cents per p and by a man named Fuller. Mr Clark lives in Ohio, and Mr. Fuller in Athens, Alabama. I claim, also, that he gave this man Clark and his associates the exclusive privilege of transporting cotton by Government wagons from Huntsville and Athens to a point on the railroad—or a road leading to Nashville; that he would permit no one else to use the teams or transport cotton by them; I have a statement here, as sworn to by a man named D. A. Saxon, who is in the employ of the Government—a mail agent between Huntsville and Reynolds's Station on the railroad—of a conversation in which Clark said that he got his cotton through by sleight of hand; that it cost him nothing to get it through, as Gen. Mitchel sent it through in Government wagons. Mr. Bell of Cincinnati told me that Gen. Mitchel said to him that he made a large amount in cotton through his son-in-law to North Alabama. His son-in-law was there, and I was introduced to him by the General. That son-in-law was understood to be connected with Mr. Clark in those cotton transactions; it would so appear from Gen. Mitchel's statement to Mr. Hall, that he had made a large amount in cotton through his son-in-law.

I charge Col. Turchin, and the officers and soldiers under his command, with having committed outrages and depredations upon the people of Limestone County, and the county west to to Tuscumbia, contrary to the printed orders of Gen. Buell for the government of the army under his command—in that they have stolen horses, mules, bacon, corn, and fodder, from the inhabitants, without receipting therefor or giving any account of the same. I charge that they have plundered houses, taken from them ladies' wearing apparel, gentlemen's clothing, and have broken furniture and windows, broken locks of drawers, and destroyed everything in and about various premises. I charge them with committing rape upon servant girls in the presence of their mistresses, with stripping rings from ladies' fingers, cutting bacon upon parlor carpets, piling meat upon pianos, and being quartered in houses when they should have been quartered in their tents; robbing citizens upon the highway, breaking open safes and stores, breaking jars and everything generally in drug-stores, in two or three instances. They have also taken away horses, mules, buggies and harness.

I further state that Gen. Mitchel knew of these things; that I took written statements to him on two occasions; that I introduced committees of citizens to him for the purpose of getting some redress for these grievances, or a cessation of them; that he paid no attention to them, or rather failed to stop the depredations up to the time the brigade was ordered to march to another section of the country. In proof of these charges I will submit the sworn statements of the citizens who suffered under this treatment, as well as the statements of officers of the army who were cognizant of the facts.

These sworn statements will be submitted to the Committee whenever they ask for them. My regiment is located at Athens, Ala., and I propose to rejoin it as soon as I conclude the business that brought me to this city. My residence is Perrysburg, Wood County, Ohio, and a letter addressed to me there in care of my wife, Mrs. J. S. Norton would reach me.

Gen. Mitchel required of those who applied for permission to buy cotton, that they should give him one cent per pound on all they bought for the privilege of buying.

THE SWORDS OF GEN. TWIGGS.

Gen. Butler has sent to President Lincoln the following characteristic letter, giving the history of the seizure of the swords of the traitor General David E. Twiggs:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, NEW-ORLEANS, July 1, 1862.

To the President—SIR: I have the honor to send you, with this note, three swords, with their equipments, formerly belonging to David E. Twiggs, late Brevet Major-General in the Army of the United States.

They are each presentation swords, one given him by resolution of Congress, which bears the following legend:

"Presented by the President of the United States, *agreeable* to a resolution of Congress, to Brigadier-General David E. Twiggs, in testimony of the high sense entertained by Congress of his gallantry and good conduct in storming Monterey. Resolution approved March 2, 1847."

Another by the State of Georgia, and bears the following legend and inscription:

"Constitution." "The State of Georgia to Major-Gen. David E. Twiggs, U. S. A., as a tribute to his gallantry in Mexico, 1847. Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Chapultepec, Molino del Rey, Mexico."

The third by his native city, Augusta, Ga., and has the following legend:

"Texas, 8th and 9th of May, 1846. Monterey, Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo. To Gen. David E. Twiggs, from the City of Augusta, Georgia."

Gen. Twiggs left these swords with a young woman on the evening before he fled from New-Orleans; and in his flight, on the day of the approach of the fleet, he wrote in his carriage, while *en route*, this extraordinary paper:

"I leave my swords to Miss ——, and box of silver.

"*New-Orleans*, 25th April, 1862. D. E. TWIGGS."

This paper was claimed as a deed of gift of these very valuable weapons by the young woman named, but as she had neglected to inform her father of this singular donation *causa fugæ*, and as the girl's mother caused them to be given to a negro to be sent back to Gen. Twiggs's house, I ventured to interfere with this testamentary disposition.

A more lamentable instance of the degradation to which this rebellion has reduced its votaries can hardly be imagined. Swords given to a General for courage and good conduct in the armies of the Union, tokens of admiration by his fellow-citizens, and the gratitude of a State and nation, voluntarily bequeathed for safe keeping to a woman, as a more proper custodian than himself, by that same General, when flying at the approach of the armies of that country which he had renounced and betrayed, at last find a depository with a negro; for the sake of enslaving whose race the double crime of treachery and rebellion has been consummated.

Now that the weapon given by the United States is returned to the Executive, and the others placed at his disposal, might I take leave to suggest a proper disposition of them?

Might not the first be presented to some officer, as a token of appreciation of loyalty and devotion to the country? The qualities of courage and good conduct in the battle-field have never been found wanting in our armies; but loyalty and entire devotion to the country have failed in so many examples, of which Gen. Twiggs is a shining one, that some token of respect for these qualities, bestowed in this manner, might not be inappropriate.

The sword from the State of Georgia might be deposited in the library at West Point, with an appropriate inscription, as a perpetual memento to the youth there how worse than useless are all education and military training, even when allied to gallantry and courage, if heartfelt patriotism and undying fealty to the Constitution and the flag is wanting.

That given by the City of Augusta might be deposited in the Patent-Office, as a warning against the folly and uselessness of such an invention as "Secession."

Pardon the freedom of these suggestions, and believe me, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

THE MILITARY CHANGES.

Gen. Halleck will reach here to-night or to-morrow, and the President will at once issue an order placing him in command of the armies of the United States, with the title of General-in-Chief.

There will be no change whatever in the head of the War Department, Mr. Lincoln not being willing to allow Mr. Stanton to resign, even if he were so disposed.

Gen. McClellan has no intention, *at present*, to resign the command of the Army of the Potomac, and it is understood that the most confidential and friendly relations exist between the two Generals.

[Wash. Cor. Phil. Inquirer, 22d.

The war meeting in Bridgeport on Thursday evening last was very large and enthusiastic, and has given a great impetus to the business of recruiting in that vicinity. Mr. Elias Howe, the well-known inventor of the sewing-machine, was present, and after giving $1,000 to the fund, signed his name to the roll of volunteers, and announced that he should not procure a substitute. This was received with tumultuous cheers, and signatures to the roll followed rapidly. Mr. Howe is one of the wealthiest men in Connecticut.

THE RESPONSE OF ILLINOIS.—The 68th Regiment of Illinois reached Washington on Friday evening last. They were raised in and around the home of the President within ten days after the call was issued. The regiment contains 1,010 men, rank and file, and is said to be as fine looking as any regiment yet enlisted. Col. E. Stewart has command.

COL. LORD ON CONFISCATION.—At the war meeting held in Watertown last Thursday evening, Col. Lord, the gallant commander of the New-York 35th regiment, and well known as a Pro-Slavery American leader at State and National Conventions, made the following speech:

Fifteen months ago, he said, in this hall at a similar meeting a clergyman expressed the conviction that the war would not end till Slavery was annihilated. He felt then like rising to rebuke him. But he had come to see the subject in the same light now. He believed in confiscating the slaves of Rebels and employing them in the Government service. The Rebels could not maintain themselves long, but for the work and fighting they get out of their slaves. He thought we had been too tender toward the Rebels by half, it was time to pay them back in their own coin. The Colonel was cheered at frequent intervals.

WORTHY OF RECORD.—A letter from an officer who was with Burnside's expedition at the battle of Camden, says:

"I met Col. Robie of Binghamton during the battle, with his cap stuck on the back part of his head, looking the happiest man I ever saw. I remember meeting him as he was leading the center of the regiment over a heavy ditch, with sword drawn, and hearing him speak to and encourage the boys on. Just then, a tremendous volley was poured into the Rebel nest. 'That's it! A good one!' he cried. They returned a perfect shower of grape and canister, tearing through and over us. Col. Robie's countenance was beaming, and turning to the men, he called out: 'Come on, my children, I'll die with you! Press on, my boys! Now is the time to show yourselves!' And as a rifled shell goes singing by his head, he cries in his joy: 'Ye Gods! Isn't this a handsome fight?'"

MORE ABOUT CAPT. MANSFIELD'S TENDERNESS TO REBELS.—We have been shown a private letter from McDowell's corps to a gentleman of another part of the State. He adds confirmation to the extract published in our paper yesterday with regard to Capt. Mansfield. Writing from Fredericksburg he says:

"The Rebels of this vicinity can have no reason to complain of Yankee rule. Capt. John Mansfield, of Fornace City of the 23d regiment, is Provost Marshal of this district, and his only ambition seems to be to acquire a reputation for chivalry among the disloyal. Please remember the name—he may be a candidate for political honors sometime in Wisconsin. He punishes a Union soldier worse for stealing a loaf from a 'Secesh' rose bush, than he would for stealing a horse from a loyal man."—[Madison (Wis.) State Journal.

THE HON. JOHN BELL.—*The Knoxville Register* learns from a refugee who left Huntsville about the 29th of May, that Nich. Davis went from Huntsville across the Tennessee River at Whitesburg, on a mission to John Bell, who was sojourning at Blount Springs, Alabama, to induce him to return to Nashville; that it was said in Huntsville that Mrs. Bell had written to Gen. Mitchel, requesting him to give her husband a safe passport; that Mitchel consented to do so, and Nich. Davis was the bearer of a message to John Bell from Mitchel, communicating the wishes of Mrs. Bell, and promising Mr. Bell protection. Davis returned, but Mr. Bell did not accompany him. As Mr. Bell's return has not been announced, the inference is fair that he refused to accept the invitation to return to his home under Federal protection, and that he patriotically awaits a safe conduct under Confederate auspices. At a recent date he was still at Blount Springs.

PURE PATRIOTISM.—Yesterday forenoon, a poor woman, earning but twenty-five cents a day by sewing, entered a grocery store in the west part of the city, and paid for ten packages of corn starch to be sent to the City Hall, and thence to the sick and wounded soldiers of the army. "Verily, I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast more in than all they which have cast into the treasury."

[New-Bedford Mercury.

WILL THE YANKEES FIGHT.—The reported loss of the 23d Massachusetts is 350 in killed, wounded, and missing; that of the Massachusetts 9th, 301. The 11th also suffered severely, having only four fine officers left.

[St. Louis Dem.

The blood of the Puritans is warming, but it is not up to its full Cromwell heat yet. Soon it will boil like molten lava, and God only knows when it will cool again. The blood of that determined, persevering, and inflexible race when once fired cannot be cooled with all the snow and ice of its native North. [Nashville Union, 12th.

FROM BOSTON.

From Our Own Correspondent.

BOSTON, July 19, 1862.

Let me suggest to the President as one way of stimulating the patriotism of the country, that some bold and inspiring words from his own lips, or his own pen, would not come amiss. We have plenty of appeals from Governors, Generals, Colonels, orators, and editors; but only this cold, dull official language from the President himself. It is his reply to the letter of the Governors:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, July 1, 1862.

GENTLEMEN: Fully concurring in the wisdom of the views expressed to me in so patriotic a manner by you in the communication of the 28th day of June, I have decided to call into the service as additional force of three hundred thousand men. I suggest and recommend that the troops should be chiefly of Infantry. The quota of your State would be ——. I trust that they may be enrolled without delay, so as to bring this unnecessary and injurious civil war to a speedy and satisfactory conclusion. An order fixing the quotas of the respective States will be issued by the War Department to-morrow. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

This is absolutely all there is from the President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief upon which to proceed in the matter of enlistments. If the full extent of the disaster to Gen. McClellan's army was known on the 1st day of July, some appeal, quite unlike this, ought to have been sent forth. If it was not known, some new call, of a more stimulating character, ought to have been issued as soon as the facts were ascertained. It is a melancholy fact, arising from the peculiar temperament of the President, or some cunning, which goes by the name of policy, on the part of some of his advisers, that from the beginning of the war we have not had anything which a rhetorician would style a "clarion voice" from the man in whom we all confide as our leader and pilot. If the President supposes that England and France and Jeff. Davis are ignorant of the particulars of the late defeats or of the perilous condition of our army and our cause, he is, no doubt, greatly mistaken. No simulated nonchalance can deceive either of these Powers. The people of the United States are no doubt deceived to a great extent by men who are interested for political and personal reasons, in trying to make it appear that an army which has lost 50,000 to 75,000 men within six months is stronger than ever, and that Harrison's Landing is nearer than Fair Oaks to the City of Richmond; and in proportion as they are misled as to the facts, is the national cause injured, and recruiting put backward. The people are told by the stump-orators in one breath that the country must have re-inforcements at once, and in the next that the President has visited McClellan's camp and has found everything all right, and that the French Princes, and Provost Porter and Gen. McClellan's father-in-law have decided that the late operations were very brilliant and successful. The people, not being fools, hear those double voices, and conclude that there is no immediate exigency which should call them from the fields and workshops where they were earning good wages, and accordingly recruiting is slow. If old Abe wants men, let him call them out with no uncertain voice. The document which I have quoted is hardly stirring enough to make a man get out of his house in a hard shower to see what the matter is.

The Faneuil Hall meeting, last Saturday, was conducted in an eminently proper manner. The blessing which Mayor Wightman got for his contemptuous and contemptible allusion to Congress was the most proper thing of all. It is said that his Honor means to go to Congress if he can, in the place of Mr. Rice. He had better not try it, for he cannot succeed; and if he could, such men as he and Ben. Wood, and Kerrigan, and Vallandigham are likely to be in worse odor another year than they are now. To return to the meeting: Ex-Governor Gardner was announced as one of the speakers. I am informed that he was invited by the Mayor, but that a deputation of Irishmen informed Wightman that his ex-excellency would not be allowed to speak, and so the invitation was withdrawn. I do not call myself a Gardner man, but it seems to me that this was rather a high-handed thing on the part of our Celtic friends. It has some excuse, perhaps, in the fact, that Col. Cass of the fighting 9th regiment, who died on the day the meeting was held, was in Rice's, captain of one of the companies disbanded by Gov. Gardner in the exercise of his Know-Nothing prerogatives. I do not think the meeting or the cause of enlistment lost anything by Gardner's absence. The Hon. Charles G. Loring made an excellent speech. *The Courier* in the violence of its pro-Slavery fanaticism, refuses to publish it, and abuses its author, quite fully and by correspondence. One of the latter intimates that Mr. Loring's sympathies have run away with his judgment. Mr. L's offense consisted in saying that Slavery so long and unchecked, would "augment the pride and ferocity of the Southern character, so marvelously exhibited in this rebellion;" in styling Slavery an "accursed system," and Slaveholders, "a perfidious and ferocious aristocracy;" and, finally, in saying that if the alternative of the preservation of the Union or of Slavery be presented, 'Slavery must be at once exterminated, cost what it may.' You will, of course, readily see the cause of *The Courier's* disgust and alarm. Mr. Loring is reckoned one of our most conservative men, and such violent language from him was not entirely expected. His speech will go far to counteract the good influence of Mr. Curtis's oration, for, to speak the unpalpable truth, Mr. Loring is not only a much better lawyer but a much more popular man than Mr. Curtis. It is very unfortunate that the good cause of Slavery-preservation should be subjected to these drawbacks. I could have told the managers of the meeting, if they had asked me, that Mr. Loring could not be trusted. Why, eleven years ago, he joined with Robert Rantoul, jr., in defending Thomas Sims of Georgia against one Potter of that State, who claimed him as a fugitive slave. Geo. T. Curtis sat as Commissioner, and delivered Sims up. Ah! *there* is a man you can always trust! Get *him* to deliver your orations and make your speeches, though, to be sure, his oratory is not quite equal to Mr. Everett's or Mr. Phillips's. Don't trust Mr. Loring! Remember the Sims case; and remember that

"Unfaith in aught is want of faith in all."

The eleventh clause indicates and this principle. Mr. Webster's early avowal of Anti-Slavery opinions, Mr. Van Buren's opposition to Texas, Mr. Douglas's opposition to Lecompton vitiated all the servile acts of their history. When the old Union is restored, and Jeff. and Toombs and Mason condescend to come to Washington again to manage affairs for us, I don't exactly see where they will find Northern men enough, of perfectly sound opinions, to fill the offices. With the exception of Mr. Curtis and Mr. Lunt, I barely know of a man who has not some time or other expressed some sympathy with liberal principles. I forgot the Rev. Dr. Adams. He could fill the office of navy chaplain, but Pro-Slavery Ministers are so scarce that he would have to follow out Dr. Franklin's suggestion as to the barrel of pork, and ask a blessing over the whole fleet.

The recent proceedings of Congress, and the indications of a more vigorous policy on the part of the President, commensurate with the new sense of the importance of speedy and effectual action, give great satisfaction here.

The passage of the Confiscation bill by such large majorities, and the quick subsidence of the border State politicians, ought to satisfy the President that he need not fear to use all the power which he now has, or had previous to the passage of the act. Every step which he has taken in the direction of emancipation has increased the public confidence in him, and I should think the extremists he has already tried in this direction would satis