OFFICIAL REBEL DOCUMENTS.

Continued from First Page.

deposit the same with the nearest Pay Depositary of the Treasury, or to make remittance thereof by express to the Treasurer at Richmond.

And, when it is equally convenient to pay the currency received to bonded officers in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, you are further authorized to adopt that course, taking their checks for the same upon funds at their credit with the Treasurer, or with Depositaries of the Treasury, and remitting the checks, or depositing the same in lieu of currency.

For all deposits made you will take duplicate receipts; forward one to the Treasurer at Richmond and retain the other to be delivered with your general account.

In making payments to Quartermasters and Commissaries you will endeavor to divide them about equally between the two Departments. Very respectfully,

By direction of Secretary of Treasury.
JOHN W. HALL, Chief Clerk.
March 30, 1865.

F. R. FARRAR, esq: SIR: You are hereby appointed appointed an Agent of this Department for the State of Virginia, in the section south of James River, to receive voluntary contributions in aid of the Treasury, in conformity with the joint resolutions of Congress providing for donations to the Treasury of the Confederate States, approved March 13, 1865. Respectfully,

By direction of Secretary of Treasury.
JOHN W. HALL, Chief Clerk.
MARCH 31, 1865.

R. M. SMITH, ESQ., *Richmond, Va.*

SIR: Accept my thanks for the contribution of certificates and currency, in aid of the Treasury, amounting to $1,020, with the assurance of my high appreciation the patriotic motives which prompted the donation.

Very respectfully,
G. A. TRENHOLM, Secretary of Treasur.
MARCH 31, 1856.

TO THE PRESIDENT.

SIR: The collection of Customs at the Ports of Wilmington, N. C., Charleston, S. C., and Savannah, Ga., having been entirely arrested, I have the honor to suggest that the offices of Collector, Surveyor and Naval Officer for these ports be discontinued, for the present, and that their effects be turned over to the nearest principal depositories. Very respectfully,

G. A. TRENHOLM, Secretary of Treasury.
APRIL 2.

Hon. JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE, *Secretary of War.*

SIR: The Treasurer of the C. S. is shipping via R. & D. R. R. to Charlotte, N. C., a large amount of treasure, &c. In case of any emergency, requiring transportation by wagons or otherwise, or any other facilities, I have the honor to request that you issue such orders or authority to O. M. Marshall, esq., who is in charge of same, as will give him every facility in protecting the valuables in his charge.

By direction of Secretary of the Treasury.
JOHN W. HALL, Chief Clerk.
APRIL 2.

Major O. H. WOOD, *Q. M.*

MAJOR: Please furnish transportation for seven of the clerks in this Department, as per memorandum, below to Charlotte, N. C., and return. These gentlemen go by the freight train on to-morrow morning (3d inst.), in charge of treasure, &c., say two car loads, and I would respectfully state that it is absolutely necessary that they should ride in the cars with the freight, for its proper protection.

I was informed by Col. Sims that there was no necessity for a formal request for transportation for freight.

Very respectfully, JOHN W. HALL, Chief Clerk.
APRIL 2.

Capt. P. H. MAYO, *A. Q. M.*—

CAPT.: Seven of the clerks of this Department have been detailed to accompany the treasure, &c., sent to Charlotte, N. C., to leave by freight-train to-morrow. I have the honor to state that it is absolutely necessary that these gentlemen ride in the cars with the freight for its proper protection, and trust that you will approve of same. Very respectfully,

JOHN W. HALL, Chief Clerk.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT C. S. A.,
RICHMOND, April 2, 1865.

SIR: In addition to the instructions heretofore given you verbally, and which, I understand, have been duly executed, in connection with the disposition of the effects of your office, you are hereby authorized to put in order *all* the effects of your office for immediate transportation. You will also turn over forthwith to the First Auditor, to be destroyed, the old and mutilated issues of Treasury notes, coupons, &c., as indicated in your letter to me of yesterday's date, and generally make such further preparations as may be necessary to facilitate the immediate removal of your office.

I am, respectfully, &c., G. A. TRENHOLM,
Secretary of the Treasury.

John N. HEADEN, Tr. C. S., Richmond, Va.
March 17.

HON. P. W. GRAY, *Agent of the Treasury, Marshall, Texas.*

SIR: I have the honor of transmitting you copies of my letters of the 11th and 31st January.

I am indebted to the politeness of Mr. Sexton for this opportunity of writing you.

Mr. Hall, Chief Clerk, will send you at the same time a copy of the Tax act, approved 11th March inst. Congress did not levy as large a tax as I had recommended, and upon which my calculations of 11th January were founded. The amount, however, is large and will give great support to the currency, though it may not furnish adequate means for all our wants. This will curtail your resources to some extent; but there is no remedy, and we must appeal to the patriotism and liberality of the people, which will never fail us if we them our entire confidence.

Our case is a very simple one. It requires $1,000,000,000 at least to carry us through the year. To raise this sum by taxation is impossible; to procure any considerable amount of it by loans is equally so. We have therefore, no choice but to supply our present means to the most pressing demands; and I have no apprehension that the people will censure their public servants, in these circumstances for making the pay and subsistance of the army their first care.

You are far better off in the Trans-Mississippi than we are here; and I hope, with the assistance of the cotton, you will gradually be enabled to meet all the demands against the government. On this side of the Mississippi a spirit of great liberality has spontaneously manifested itself among the people, and donations of money and public securities are generously proffered in aid of the Treasury. On this subject Congress has passed a set of joint resolutions of which a copy is likewise sent you.

You will please give them publicity that the patriotic and affluent among you may have the opportunity of contributing.

It is better for us to give up the half of what we possess than suffer one fiber to relax in the cause of the public defense. The enemy is gathering for another, and more formidable blow; we are all equally interested; the battle of Texan independence is to be fought on the plains of Virginia. Let us, therefore, combine all our strength and resources; let what will happen, we can never be subdued if we are firm and united.

You will see by the Tax bill that you have authority to issue the Certificates of indebtedness from your agency; this will greatly facilitate the liquidation of debts. Besides this, under another act (of which a copy is sent,) you have power to receive deposits from the community. Thus persons having large checks which you are unable to pay, may deposit the same, and draw gradually, and for smaller amounts.

Under a recent act, (of which a copy is likewise sent,) you are fully empowered to sell cotton, and give permission to transport it through the lines.

By all these means combined, I hope you will be enabled to do much towards the final liquidation, and restoration to order of the finances of your Department.

As a last measure you may, if necessary, adopt the suggestions made in a previous letter, and authorize Tax Collectors to receive check, marked good by Depositaries. I remain your most obedient servant,

G. A. TRENHOLM, Secretary of Treasury.
MARCH 20.

GEORGE W. MORDECAI, esq., *Raleigh, N. C.:*

SIR: I beg leave thankfully to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, inclosing 7½ C. S. Bonds for $10,000, sent as your "contribution toward paying the Confederate debt," and to assure you of my high appreciation of the generous patriotism which tempted the donation.

With great respect, I remain your most obedient servant,

GEO. A. TRENHOLM, Secretary of Treasury.
MARCH 20. 5.

Mrs. PATSY RUFFIN, *Graham, Alamance County, N. C.:*

MADAM: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 14th inst., accompanying a bag of coin and diamond ring from Mrs. James Ruffin, and a case of plate and jewelry in it "as a free will offering to our soldiers, from a few North Carolina women."

The sentiments of your letter, and the motives which prompted the contribution, command my highest esteem. I am happy to assure you that a generous spirit is spontaneously manifesting itself in many parts of the country, which gives promise of very material support to the Government.

It cannot be that the men of the nation will fail in the maintenance of a cause which inspires our women with sentiments of such lofty devotion.

With great respect, I remain your most obedient servant,

G. A. TRENHOLM, Secretary of Treasury.
March 22, 1865.

Hon. P. W. GRAY, *Agent of the Treasury, Marshall, Texas.*

SIR: Maj. A. H. Cole, Quartermaster and Inspector-General of Field Transportation, is proceeding to Texas to make purchases of horses and mules. He requires for this purpose about six hundred thousand dollars in coin. I have given him an order on Th. Sanford, esq., Depositary, Montgomery, Ala., to furnish him a part of this amount if possible. His ability to do so will depend upon the success of certain negotiations now in progress, and Maj. Cole will inform you what proportion he will have received from Mr. Sanford, if any.

The remainder I must ask you to make every effort to supply.

1. By appropriating any specie you may have on hand, not otherwise appropriated.

2. By furnishing a part in sterling bills, if possible. All the ports on the Atlantic having been closed, the export of cotton from the Cis Mississippi States has been entirely arrested. The trade from Galveston may derive great activity from this cause, and I hope your shipments will be of sufficient magnitude to admit of your furnishing some sterling for this purpose.

3. By the sale of cotton for specie, and the application of the specie to this payment, or even by giving the cotton in exchange for horses and mules, at rates to be arranged between Maj. Cole and yourself.

The act of Congress of March, 1865 (of which you will have received a copy), authorizes the sale of Government cotton, and the granting of permits for its free exportation, except in so far as the duty of id. is concerned.

Maj. Cole may assist you materially in the sale of cotton, by furnishing transportation, and the object in view being one of paramount importance, I bespeak your zealous coöperation in all efforts to furnish the necessary funds.

At the foot of this letter is Maj. Cole's signature, to guard against mistakes.

You will take receipts from him in triplicate, for all moneys paid him, or the value of cotton delivered, and send the same to the Treasurer here, and the proper requisition or transfer drafts will be sent in return.

This letter has been made in triplicate.

Very respectfully,
G. A. TRENHOLM, Secretary of Treasury.

P. S. Col. Cole may find it necessary to transfer the authority to act under this letter to other officers. To comply with this necessity you are authorized to respect his written drafts or orders. He thinks also that he may be enabled to make arrangements for the sale of cotton in payment of horses, so as merely to require you to deliver the cotton to his order at prices agreed upon between you and him. There is no objection to this course. Yours respectfully,

G. A. TRENHOLM, Secretary of Treasury.
JANUARY 30, 1865.

TO THE PRESIDENT: I have the honor to indorse and submit to your consideration a letter addressed to the Commissary-General by Major Noland urging the necessity of supplying gold or United States Treasury Notes for the purchase of supplies. Having informed the Commissary-General that the resources of the Treasury did not admit of the payment of specie in satisfaction of requisitions, he requested that the whole matter might be referred to you as one of "vital and immediate importance."

In the meantime, several cargoes of commissary stores have been received at Charleston, and contracts have been made for the introduction of supplies at other points, through the enemy's lines, to be paid for in cotton.

I have the honor to remain, your obedient servant,
G. A. TRENHOLM, Secretary Treasury.

New-York Central Railroad.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: I assume that your inclinations and intentions are to do right, irrespective of all partyism or unworthy consideration; and, knowing that your independent position enables you to act according to your sincere convictions, I ask you to print a brief statement of the condition and prospects of the Central Railroad. The managers of the Company have applied to the Legislature for partial relief from the restriction imposed upon its way fare,—a restriction unreasonable and invidious, as they maintain, and such as no other Railway in the State is subjected to. And they insist that this limitation is now specially onerous and unjust, in view of the fact that the expense of maintaining and operating the Road have more than trebled since the restriction was imposed: this increase in the cost of materials and labor, and in the amount of taxes, having arisen from causes over which the Company have no control, and for which they are in no wise responsible.

In order to a clear understanding of the whole case, I go back to the period of consolidation, twelve years ago.

The New-York Central Railroad Company received the net earnings of the several corporations owning the line from Albany to Buffalo, from May 1, 1853. It went into the actual occupation and management of the roads, August 1, 1853. The first dividend was paid Feb. 20, 1854. It was five per cent, and on earnings for the previous nine months. During the eleven following years, the Company has made twenty-two dividends: the first ten were four per cent each; the next seven were three per cent each; the next ten were three and a half (3½) per cent each; the next (in February, 1864) was five per cent; the next (August, 1864) was four per cent; the last (February, 1865) was three per cent: making in all, for the whole existence of the company—eleven years and nine months, up to February last—eighty-five (85) per cent in dividends, being seven twenty-three (7 23-100) per cent a year. That is all the income the shareholders have received from their stock.

During that period, the stock has fluctuated in the market between fifty per cent discount, and thirty per cent premium. The value of the property has been uncertain. The income has been moderate and uncertain also. For these and other reasons, large amounts of the stock have changed hands.

There was held at consolidation by stockholders owning 200 shares and over..... $13,698,600
The same stockholders now own only..... 3,483,900

In new hands..... $10,214,700

The smaller stockholders have changed in as great a proportion.

The following is a statement of the earnings and expenses of the Company for the first six months of the last and of the present fiscal year:

1864.	Earnings.	Expenses.
Oct. '63	$1,041,521 88	$991,230 25
Nov. '63	1,045,401 61	835,801 81
Dec. '63	1,074,699 91	721,187 38
Jan. '64	921,830 13	644,560 13
Feb. '64	936,386 64	787,352 65
March '64	1,659,028 49	705,145 89
Total	$6,679,068 06	$4,685,298 31
1865.	**Earnings.**	**Expenses.**
Oct. '64	$1,196,435 22	$880,469 68
Nov. '64	1,157,817 56	1,240,653 52
Dec. '64	1,059,902 14	1,053,130 04
Jan. '65	899,478 12	998,916 75
Feb. '65	981,372 41	936,286 35
March '65, est.	915,000 00	860,000 00
Total	$5,790,205 45	$5,913,456 34

Earnings less for first six months of this year than for same period last year..... $288,862 61
Expenses more for same months this year... 1,125,158 03
Condition of Company worse so far this year than last..... $1,414,020 64

During the last ten years preceding October 1, 1864, the close of the last fiscal year, the whole receipts for way passengers were $19,785,582 09, being an average of $1,978,558, annually. Half a cent per mile would yield—supposing the whole increase to be realized—an addition of $494,639 to the annual income of the Company.

The taxes paid by the Company in 1864 amounted to..... $390,000
The taxes paid and to be paid by the Company in 1865, exclusive of duties on most of the articles consumed by the Company..... 907,000

Increase of these taxes alone in '65 over '64.... $517,000

Up to near the close of the last fiscal year, the operations of the Company were carried on with supplies purchased at low prices, so that the apparent net income of the Company for the last year, with the large addition to its business growing out of the war, was about nine (9) per cent.

The stock of supplies purchased at low prices has been exhausted, and the business of the Company must be done for the current year with labor and material, the prices of which are two or three times as great as they were in 1853, when the present rate of fare was fixed.

The additional expenses of the Company for the year 1865 over the expenses of 1864, growing out of increased prices and increased taxation, will be at least $2,000,000, rendering dividends hereafter impossible.

The Consolidation Act provided that the capital of the new company should not be greater than the aggregate capitals of the old companies. The stock of the old companies was put into consolidation at its market value. Consolidation was impossible in any other way—and consolidation had become a necessity in order to secure the unity and harmony of action requisite to compete with the other long lines of railroads then going into operation. The stockholders made nothing by consolidation. Take the case of two men owning stock in the Syracuse and Utica Company. That stock was put into consolidation at 50 per cent premium. One sold out at $150 for each share, and invested his whole money in bonds and mortgages, or other securities yielding 7 per cent interest. He has received 7 per cent interest on his whole investment ever since. The other put his stock into consolidation, received one share of new for one share of old stock and $50 on each share in debt certificates, at 6 per cent interest. He has received 7 23-100 per cent on $100, and 6 per cent on $50, and his stock is now worth only 94c., (it has been as low as 50c.) and his debt certificates are worth 97c. only.

Expenses first six months of 1865 as by above statement..... $5,913,456 34
Earning first six months of 1865 as by above statement..... 5,790,205 45

Deficiency of receipts to meet expenses $123,250 89

The Company must rely on this *deficiency* to meet the following unavoidable claims accruing during the same months, in

Interest on funded debt..... $300,000
Sinking Fund..... 50,000
Rent—Canandaigua Road..... 30,000
$380,000

The necessity of presenting the whole case in a single communication compels me to be somewhat discursive and desultory.

The question of Way and Through Freights has been much discussed along the line of the Road, and great misapprehension has prevailed respecting the relative amounts of Way and Through Freights that have been transported by the Company during the past Winter. A transcript from the books of the Company, showing the whole amount of property shipped during the months of January and February last, will disabuse the public mind on this point. I have not the figures for the month of March before me; but I have no doubt that the excess of Way Freight over Through which was moved during that period was in a still greater ratio.

The Road was under orders from the Government to give precedence to its freight, but, upon consultation with the agents of the Government, it was agreed that live stock and perishable commodities should first be moved by the Road, and then the Government property should be shipped; and freights have been moved substantially in this order.

Of live stock, perishable commodities, and Government property, there have been shipped during the above-named period 57,474,076 pounds.

The following is a statement of miscellaneous property shipped during the period above stated:

	January.	February.
Way Freight	24,006,842 lb.	16,067,932 lb.
Through Freight	17,877,002 lb.	10,039,372 lb.
	6,129,774 lb.	6,028,560 lb.

Excess of *Way* over *Through* Freights, 19,128,334 lbs.; amounting to over 6,079 tuns of such excess of *Way*, over *Through* Freights for these months.

It should, however, be stated that for full two weeks of the time referred to, there was little or no movement of Freights of any kind, on account of the blockade of the Road by snow and successive snow storms. Hence this excess of *Way* over *Through* Freight relates to a period of only six weeks.

During the time embraced in this statement there were detained at Buffalo and Suspension Bridge from two to four thousand car loads (and never less than two thousand,) of Western property waiting transit by the Central Railroad.

It is now eight or nine months since a material change was made in the direction of the Central. Since that time, several important reforms have been effected, and many of still greater magnitude have been initiated, and will be prosecuted as rapidly as circumstances will permit. By sending the through freight, passenger and express matter by the way of Troy, nearly $400,000 will be saved to the Company annually, in cartage and other unnecessary expenses. And I have no hesitation in asserting that a wise economy, rigidly enforced, such as the stockholders are justified in expecting from the new President, sustained as he will be by the younger and more vigorous men that he is gathering around him, will increase the net earnings of the Company more than half a million dollars a year. The direction of the Central has long needed an infusion of superior activity and energy. There has been a great deal too much dead wood in the Board; and the same remark applies to many of the subordinate officers and employés of the road.

The ex-President has been in the habit of composing a portion of the direction of a set of fossils, most of whom never acted upon an independent impulse, but who felt and moved and voted wholly through his inspiration. Excellent citizens, I dare say they were—meritorious and exemplary in all the ordinary relations of life; but they really had no more to do or say in respect to the management of the Central Railroad than so many dummy engines. They simply said ditto to Mr. Corning—never doubting or hesitating, but always acquiescing in silence and awe. His word had the force and effect of a vermillion edict. An act of contumacy or independence was visited by an unceremonious ejection from the Board at the next election. Mr. Richmond, who filled the office of Vice-President, resided at Buffalo, and managed the western end of the road without interference from Mr. C. His knowledge and experience could not be dispensed with, and the difference between the administration of affairs at Albany and at Buffalo shows the difference between the two men.

When the change took place in the management, a young, intelligent, and most energetic gentleman was introduced into the Board from New-York, greatly to the discontent of Mr. Corning, who had an instinctive dread of the perquisitions of a director of sagacity and independence, whose opulence placed him above the reach of temptation, and whose insight and penetration were not to be baffled by any amount of ingenious explanation. The consequences of the substitution of this vigilant and determined director for the antiquated and decayed old gentleman who always thought and voted on the suggestion of Mr. Corning, have been felt and seen in the management of every branch of the road; and it is not too much to expect that when Mr. Richmond is backed up by men of this description, who are honest, efficient, and capable, and desire to see the Central conducted purely as a business enterprise, the shareholders will receive a proper return for their investment, and the just expectations of the people in regard to the accommodations to which they are entitled fully realized.

The gentlemen in the Legislature who admit the justice and reasonableness of the claim for relief preferred by the Central, and yet express their determination to resist it, under the apprehension that, by some inexplicable process, great detriment to the Republican party must result from the slightest relaxation of this restriction, take a narrow and superficial view of the case. I insist that no permanent party advantage can ever be gained by the perpetration of a conscious wrong. And Senators who oppose the application of the Central, after acknowledging that it it is just and right, and ought to be granted, oppose it on the ground that the dominant political party in the State cannot afford to do away with this inequality and injustice, are unworthy to represent an enlightened and honest constituency.

JUSTICE.

The United States Sanitary Commission at City Point, Va.

UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION,
WASHINGTON, April 6, 1865.

To the Standing Committee of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

GENTLEMEN: The eventful week in the experience of the armies of the Potomac and James has found the Commission prepared to do its proper work with those armies.

On the 4th inst. the schooner Baltimore reached City Point with an assorted cargo of supplies, and another cargo left New-York on the 3d inst. As a measure of precaution, I have ordered another consignment of stores, similar to the last sent from New-York. From City Point but one application for supplies has been received, and that but for two articles, bandages and arm-slings. The journal of the 3d inst. states our losses in Sunday's fight to be comparatively slight. The wagons of the Commission with the Twenty-fifth Corps accompanied it into Richmond; one of the Ninth Corps wagons entered Petersburg on the 3d with the hospital train of the Second Division, and our agents under William Johnson, with wagons and stores, are with the moving column in pursuit of Lee.

There has been no call for additional assistance. Not less than fifty well qualified persons, selected with care for this work, await a call to the field.

It is believed that City Point will remain a base of supplies to the armies, and that the depot hospitals will be maintained there.

I have just received a letter from Mr. Harris, written yesterday, which says: "The demand on us for stores has been large, but with the ample stock on hand we have been able to meet all necessities."

Dr. McDonald accompanied the President's party to Richmond on the 4th inst., by boat to Varina, thence by horse.

The number of persons in the service of the Commission with the armies operating against Richmond was on April 1 100, and has not yet been materially increased.

The accompanying list of articles sent to City Point since Feb. 1 will indicate the character of the provision made for the present emergency. Very respectfully,

J. FOSTER JENKINS, General Secretary.

Blankets	1,100	Ink, bottles	3,000
Candles, lbs	1,400	Writing paper, reams	500
Cushions	2,000	Ale, bottles	1,832
Dippers	236	Dried apples, bbls	35
Head rests	100	Blackberry cordial, bots	1,632
Knives and forks, doz	120	Canned meat, lbs	6,500
Pails	300	Condensed egg, lbs	200
Lanterns	120	Cond'sed lemonade, pgs	2,280
Pillows	800	Small dried fruit, lbs	1,000
Pipes, boxes	39	Chocolate, lbs	2,000
Quilts	500	Ground coffee, bbls	2
Towels	24,000	Condensed milk, lbs	9,000
Tin cups	6,000	Crackers, bbls	350
Tin plates, gross	21	Corn starch, lbs	4,400
Spoons, doz	300	Jamaica ginger, bots	14,400
Drawers, cotton, pairs	2,000	Farina, lbs	6,950
Drawers, woolen, pairs	18,000	Lemons, boxes	2
Handkerchiefs	27,000	Maizena, lbs	2,000
Mittens, pairs	14,200	Pickles, kegs	2
Shirts, cotton hospital	2,684	Sugar, white, bbls	22
Shirts, woolen	19,000	Spices, lbs	125
Slippers, pairs	30,000	Tea, chests	5
Socks, woolen, pairs	22,000	Canned tomatoes, lbs	24,240
Suspenders, pairs	1,800	Tobacco, lbs	5,100
Yarn, lbs	85	Bay Rum, bottles	672
Cologne, bottles	120	Books, spelling, vols	3,000
Crutches, pairs	3,000	Reading matter, boxes	23
Games	1,000	Penholders, doz	600
Sponges, lbs	3,000	Thread, lbs	155
Pin cushions, needle-books, &c	16,925	Needles, papers	2,300
Soap, boxes	71	Pins, papers	1,000
Envelopes	275,000	Pencils, doz	3,700
		Pens, doz	7,400

Bed-pans, combs, knives and forks, corn meal, jelly and preserves, mustard, sago, salt, tapioca, gin, buttons, lint, old linen, &c.

MOBILE.

The Landing of Gen. Canby's Army.

From The Mobile News, March 31.

Headquarters reports from the Eastern shore state that at four o'clock yesterday afternoon the enemy landed some regiments at Battle's Wharf (Point Clear.) It is probable that the heavy firing of this fleet in that direction yesterday afternoon was designed to cover the landing. It is further reported that 18 of the enemy's transports entered Fish River from the bay yesterday, and that the enemy was in force at Magnolia, below Point Clear. A company of mounted scouts sent in the direction of Magnolia, however, did not discover any enemy.

There is no news from this side since eight o'clock yesterday morning, at which time four regiments were at the narrows, eight miles this side of Cedar Point. The heavy rain that has been falling with little cessation for the last 14 hours has doubtless swollen the creeks, and stopped both news and enemies.

Sixteen vessels were in front of the city at last accounts.

The Rumored Raids Against Mobile and Selma.

From The Mobile News, March 22.

The only information we have of the enemy's movements in this vicinity is derived from the reports of scouts to headquarters in this city. They represent that a column of 20,000 in number is about to move from Pensacola, in conjunction with another from Milton, under Canby, 4,000 strong, and that their destination is Selma. A coöperating force under Thomas is to start from Vicksburg at the same time. The above is given as the reports of prisoners captured near Pensacola.

From another quarter it is reported that the entire effective force intended to operate against Mobile and Selma amounts to 20,000 men of all arms.

The force of Yankees reported at the Narrows yesterday is represented to have returned to Cedar Point.

The number of vessels in sight this morning is only six, the usual number.

We have nothing further at the time of going to press.

The Invasion of Alabama.

From the Montgomery (Ala.) Appeal.

The purposes of the enemy against Alabama, so long foreshadowed, and of which we have so frequently warned the authorities and the public, are at last beginning to assume a definite shape. We can no longer shut our eyes to the design of the extensive preparations witnessed on the borders of the State north and south. We are now as fully advised as to the object of the concentration of such strong forces on the Tennessee and Gulf coast as if the orders of the Union commander were before us, and can no longer doubt that a *formidable attempt to completely overrun the States of Alabama and Mississippi is about to commence.* The hindrance to military movements afforded by the weather for the last thirty days cannot be expected to continue much longer, and therefore we may expect that whatever is proposed by our enemies will be attempted ere long.

Indeed, we have reports, considered authentic, that movements have been commenced both from Tennessee and Pensacola. From above the force is reported to be about 20,000 strong—principally cavalry. No statement is made as to the strength of the force reported moving from Pensacola.

Our people one and all know what preparations have been made to meet the enemy, and while we refrain from any expressions as to their efficiency or incompleteness, we must admit that the situation would present a more hopeful aspect if all that might yet be done was completed, and that a much longer delay would endanger our chances of success in resisting the attempts the invader may make.

Drumming up the Rebel Deserters to Defend Mobile.

APPEAL FROM THE REBEL GEN. R. L. GIBSON.

HEADQUARTERS GIBSON'S BRIGADE,
MOBILE, March 16, 1865.

Some men belonging to the regiments of this brigade remain away from their colors, having in the first instance overstayed their furloughs, while others have attached themselves to commands nearer their own homes.

Both class of absent soldiers are guilty of desertion—a military crime fatal to the cause of their country, whose laws punish it with death.

Officers who permit such men to serve in their companies or regiments pursue a course equally hostile to the interests of the army and the country, and for this reason they justly incur the penalty of dismissal from the service.

The General-in-Chief, Robert E. Lee, in General Orders Nos. 2 and 3, Headquarters Armies Confederate States, Feb. 11, 1865, announces pardon to all men who will return to their proper commands within the shortest possible time, not exceeding twenty days from the publication of his order, at the headquarters of the department in which they may be.

A last appeal is made to all men absent from the 1st, 4th, 13th, 16th, 19th, 24th, 25th and 30th Louisiana regiments, Austin's battalion of sharpshooters and the 4th Louisiana battalion, to avail themselves of this magnanimous order, and to rejoin their commands, whose heroic deeds and disciplined valor have covered their old banners with the luster of enduring fame.

Under the general exchange many prisoners have already returned, and in a few weeks every officer and man will have been restored to their regiments.

Many soldiers who have been improperly absent are also coming in.

The brigade will soon be stronger than it has ever been.

It cannot be that you have made up your minds to yield with passive obedience to a chosen master—the Yankees; that you have resolved to abandon your country, yourselves, your friends, your kindred, your homes, your wives and children, to the rule of an enemy who even now holds out as the reward for the most humiliating and abject submission chains and slavery.

Nor can you hope to enjoy the free institutions bequeathed us by our fathers without sharing with your countrymen the dangers and privations necessary to defend and perpetuate them. Won by valor, constancy and fortitude, they can only be maintained by the exhibition of the same hardy and noble virtues.

Return, then, once more to the path of duty, which is the path of honor and independence. Resume to do a manly part in this great contest for liberty. Scorn to skulk any longer from the sight of all good men and women, and from the secret tortures of your own self-reproach.

Your old battle-flag still defiants defiance to the foe; your old comrades still stand shoulder to shoulder with ever-increasing confidence in themselves and the cause.

I appeal to his Excellency the Governor, to all the civil authorities, and to my noble countrywomen, to exert their power at this auspicious moment to hasten back all men absent from these commands, to arouse the young men to a proper sense of duty to themselves and their country, and to rekindle that patriotic devotion throughout our beloved State, which will lead to the recruitment of the old regiments and to the support of the families of the good and true men who stand steadfastly at their posts.

RANDALL LEE GIBSON, Brigadier-General.

The Great Cavalry Movement from the West.

From The St. Louis Republican.

Our readers have had very imperfect and limited intelligence regarding a great forward movement which has just been commenced in Gen. Thomas' department, and which must do as much toward closing up the Rebellion in the South-West, as the operations of Grant, Sherman and Sheridan toward giving it a quietus in the East. We allude to the great cavalry force which has been concentrating and outfitting at Eastport, a town on the Tennessee River, and situated in Northern Mississippi, for several months past. The utmost efforts of the Quartermaster's Department throughout the West have been directed to supplying horses, forage and general cavalry equipments, so as to insure an advance as soon as the roads become practicable for operations in the present Spring.

The grand corps left Gravelly Springs, in the vicinity of Eastport, on the 21st inst. Brevet Maj.-Gen. Wilson, an officer who had acquired renown on the Potomac line before his transfer to a Western field of service, is in chief command. He has 15,000 men, divided into three full divisions, and commanded respectively by Brig.-Gens. Hammond, Croxton and Long. The Fourth and Fifth Divisions, the latter under Brig.-Gen. Hatch, remain in reserve at or about the Eastport depot.

The moving force is superbly equipped in all respects, well mounted, well armed, with efficient and abundant artillery and immense wagon and pontoon trains. The men of which it is composed are mostly veterans, have experienced war upon many a field of strife, and were in the saddle for two months, last Fall and Winter during Hood's advance upon and retreat from Nashville. Its destination is known only to those in authority, but it may be assumed to be Selma, Montgomery and Mobile. Wilson can easily brush Forrest's weakened force from his path, take two of the places above-named, and force an evacuation and surrender of the third by cutting off all its sources of supply. Mobile, the last seaboard city east of the Mississippi River remaining in Rebel possession, is thus practically doomed and the Confederacy cut asunder, as a force of such magnitude, backed by Gen. Thomas's infantry supports, can easily keep open a line of communication from the Tennessee River to the Gulf.

REBEL TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ARMY.

Strength of the Rebels—What They are Doing—Affairs in Texas, &c.

From The Cincinnati Gazette, April 6.

S. M., an old resident of Mobile, left that city on the first of last December, crossed the Mississippi on the 9th at Brunsburgh, Miss., and thence traveled by way of Alexandria and Waco, Austin, San Antonio, Texas, and returned by way of Shreveport and Monroe, Louisiana. On the 19th of February he left San Antonio, and on the 12th of March left Shreveport, and arrived at Natchez on the 26th. From this source we gather the following:

Major-Gen. Walker is in command of the Rebels in the Department of Texas; Buckner has the Department of Louisiana, and Magruder that of Arkansas. The headquarters of the Department of Louisiana are still at Shreveport.

There are under Walker about 8,000 infantry at Galveston, Texas, and nearly all the cavalry of that Department are foraging on the Brazos and Trinity Rivers.

Gen. Polignac is at Grand Ecore with about 7,000 men. There are also some unattached brigades in that vicinity. Forney's division is at Kechi, twenty-one miles from Shreveport, on the road to Mansfield. Churchill's division is thirty miles east of Shreveport, at Minden, Mo. Gen. Parsons has a small division of about 4,000 infantry between Camden and Homer, Arkansas, in Winter quarters.

Magruder is at Camden with one brigade of infantry and one of cavalry, numbering together about 5,000 men. Swamp Harrison's brigade is between Minsas and Oak Hills. Gen. Lee's guerrillas have crossed to the west of the Mississippi, in consequence of his refusal to obey the orders of his superior, Buckner. He was operating in the neighborhood of Deer Creek at last accounts.

The effective force of the Trans-Mississippi Department is 53,000, which is the actual number as taken from the estimate of Smith's Adjutant-General.

The army is in fine condition in everything except discipline, having plenty of clothing, provisions and ordnance stores. It is, however, becoming badly demoralized, on account of the continued bad news from the East Mississippi Department.

Nearly everybody is wild with the cotton mania. About 5,000 wagons are employed in hauling cotton from Louisiana, Texas and the Indian Territory to Matamoros.

Specie is more plenty in Texas than ever before, and yet goods are very high. Confederate currency is not used to any extent in Texas.

A large majority of the people are in favor of a reconstruction of the Union, and would move in that direction, were they not prevented by the military authorities from effecting any organization. The people are generally tired, dispirited and worn out with the war, and would be willing to settle on almost any terms they had in their power.

It is generally understood that Kirby Smith is doing a big thing in the cotton business, and he is regarded as inefficient in military affairs.

There was an order at Shreveport from Richmond for 40,000 troops to cross the Mississippi, but as the troops refused to cross last Summer, it was generally thought that force would not be applied to compel them to cross. A system of volunteering and new organization had, however, been adopted, under which many were volunteering to cross, though it was impossible to estimate the number. Our informant saw this order at the Adjutant-General's office at Shreveport.

Mr. S. M. owns a plantation in Alabama, and also a ranche in Texas, and he was enabled to travel under the supposition that he was going from place to place on business.

Gen. Watts of Alabama had passes from Dick Taylor to cross the Mississippi into Texas, and from the chief of secret service of the Trans-Mississippi Department, and from swamp Harrison to recross on his return to Alabama.

Forrest and Dick Taylor Whipped.

From The Nashville Dispatch, April 5.

Our readers will recollect the correspondence to *The Dispatch* from Eastport a few days ago, in which it was stated that the Rebel Gen. Forrest had sent a challenge to Gen. Wilson, proposing a fair, open field-fight, and expressing his conviction of success in such an engagement. It appears that Gen. Wilson has gratified Forrest in his desire to meet him, and the result is entirely contrary to the expectations of the Rebel General, if he had any sanguinary convictions, as he asserted in his brigadoonia challenge. We are informed that Gen. Wilson met Forrest and Dick Taylor on the 28th ult., and the fight took place on that day at a point between Selma and Montgomery, Ala. It was a desperate engagement, and called into requisition all the military skill and bravery of both commands. The forces under these two Rebel Generals were totally defeated, and a large number of prisoners were captured by Gen. Wilson. He also destroyed sixteen cars containing ammunition and commissary stores, and destroyed four locomotives. Gen. Wilson left Eastport last week, and his force consists of cavalry entirely.

Gerome's Pictures at Goupils.

"The Prayer in the Desert."
"The Turkish dancing girl."

The joyful march of our recent national triumphs has obliged us of late to surrender our columns entirely to the invading army of war correspondents, and has left us therefore no space in which to speak of Gérome's latest works which the liberality of the house of Goupil has sent over the seas for our enjoyment. We regret this the more because the finest of these pictures, "The Turkish Dancing Girl," has been written about in a very unworthy spirit in two or three of the leading journals, so as to give the impression that it belongs to a class of works meant to pander to evil thought; and so, many have run to see it who do not need any new incitements to sin, and many have turned away from it who are wisely unwilling to run any risk of temptation. But, in truth, these writers have greatly mistaken the character of the artist, and the intention of his works. "There is no such stuff in his thoughts;" and, while we regret that want of space prevents our describing these pictures in full, we may assert, without fear of contradiction, that the same purity of sentiment, intellectual penetration and loyalty to truth that makes "The Prayer in the Desert" so impressive, are to be found in the "Almeh," which reveals to us the head of the Master in far greater power. As in the many pictures which he has painted from Greek and Roman life the artist has wished to follow those people through the whole circle of their civilization, and so show us, as the lesson of the whole, that the degradation of woman was at once the cause and effect of their downfall; so, now, we journey with him through the East, and walk the wondrous streets, and join the caravan, and see a hundred sights which, thus far, we have only read of in the "Arabian Nights" or looked at through some wondering Howadjes eyes. In these many colored pictures the artist shows such nicehess of observation, such patience of elaboration, and such wonderful skill of hand, wonderful even in these days, when skill of hand is no longer rare, that we perceive we are in the company of no idle showman, no mercenary tradesman whose wares are painted canvases instead of pots and pans, but in that of a learned, accomplished, far-seeing and all-seeing man, who, with infinite skill, shows us the world as it is, not as it seems; without exaggeration, without prejudice, without egotism, presents his calm, clear statement and leaves the truth to make its own impression.

It would be a task as