sunny side of forty—that he has not yet offered rewards for gray hairs—and that the crows feet are not very strongly marked in the outer angles of his eyes. Is that satisfactory? If not, let his friends come and see him, and judge for themselves.

FROM MANASSAS—THE CONDITION OF THE ROADS—APPEARANCE OF THE REBEL CAMPS—THE FORTS DILAPIDATED, MILDEWED AND WEATHERBEATEN.

[Special correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

MANASSAS PLAINS, Jan. 22, 1862.

Rain, snow, sleet, mist, fog, mud, and the state of the weather generally, have for the time being monopolized conversation, to the exclusion of that everlasting topic, "the advance and the expected battle." Since this miserable spell of weather set in the subject has been quietly laid aside; and as it is the first time since last July that a week has gone by without a rumor of the federal forces advancing, and it being such a great piece of news not to hear it, I concluded to send it to the *Dispatch*, hoping its readers will feel very grateful to hear such a piece of intelligence. A trip down to Centreville last week was quite an event, considering the state the roads are in now; but I felt amply repaid by the hearty greetings of my friends and the opportunity I had of noting the change in the scene since I last travelled over the road. The old tents, in some cases dilapidated, mildewed and weatherbeaten, which had stood the storms and sunshines of the summer campaign, have given place to comfortable cabins, which have quite an air of neatness and home comfort, with their stick and plaster chimneys, and their one window of six and four lights, and their new plank door. In some cases the ends of the logs are sawed off, and the little villages look quite habitable until you cast a glance down at the pavement. To supply the windows of course every deserted house between Centreville and the outside of the lines had to furnish its quota. In this connection an anecdote is related of an old lady, who took her knitting and went off to spend the afternoon with a friend. Great was her consternation upon returning to find her house minus the windows. As no smoke was coming from the chimney it was drawn upon as deserted property.

Everything about Centreville has an air of activity, business and bustle; even the old buildings seem to have brightened up and put on an air of importance as much as to say, "I am or I was headquarters." Now another incident and I am done. Even in this vicinity we have frequent visits from the "noble soldiers," as mine host, a meek, unsuspicious, invalid minister of the gospel calls them, and many a meal, bundle of straw and other kindness they receive from him; and his faith in them could not be shaken by such instances as the following until a day or two ago:—

"Massa, dem hame strings gone."

"Hame strings gone, Frederick; where are they gone?"

"Dunno, Massa, spects dem soldiers what got straw yestiddy, dun tied em on to dar straps so dey could carry more."

"Tut, tut, Frederick; accuse the noble soldiers of taking them; that won't do."

But there was the turning point. Soldier No. 1 dropped in to get his dinner, depositing his gloves, coat and bucket of butter, just purchased, on the hall table. Soldier No. 2 came in also, but ate hastily and left the table, returning to the sitting room before any one else. When the family and soldier No. 1 came in, the other had disappeared; also gloves and bucket. This led to some suspicion, and search was made to see if anything else was missing. It was soon discovered that a small morocco bag, containing a portemonnaie with twenty dollars, was also gone, belonging to the lady of the house. Mine host moralized on the frailty of man in general, and the delinquency of this noble soldier in particular, and contented himself by quoting:—

"He who steals my purse steals trash,"

which is literally true, in these days of shinplasters, but still, as this trash could very well help to supply numerous household comforts, the good lady was not so easily won over to the philosophy of the quotation. It is but justice to add, of the hundreds of soldiers who have been here since the 21st of July, these were the first things ever taken from the house.

EXPLOSION OF A REBEL LABORATORY—LOSS OF LIFE.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Jan. 28.]

We regret that we have this morning another accident to record from the handling of materials of war, though so far as at present advised there is no loss of life. At a quarter past eleven o'clock yesterday morning an explosion occurred at the government laboratory, at the foot of Seventh street, which, though not fatal, is very painful in its results. It appears that at the hour named there was an explosion of a very serious character, involving the serious injury of several human beings immediately in the vicinity. In the rear of the establishment, in what is generally known as the seacoast ammunition room, a number of boys were sitting in a corner filling and ramming fuses. Probably from the fact that a vent was not properly secured the foul air got between the drift and the composition, and an explosion ensued, fearful in its effects and quite destructive to property. Immediately after it occurred men were seen leaping from the windows, every one of which was completely shattered by the concussion, and the building itself was seen to be on fire from its effects. The boys who sat in the circle of some twelve feet square, surrounding the place of operation, were very badly burned. One, named John Fitzgerald, was hurt about the face and legs, and one eye seemed nearly gone. Others of the boys were injured nearly as bad; their names are Robert Coleman, Robert Robinson, Charles Shope, Michael Byron, John Harman and Peter Branders. We are informed that one or two others are necessary to complete the list, but were unable to obtain names. Two of the boys ran in flames to the river and plunged in, and another ran up the street with every particle of clothes burned off. At the time of the explosion they were driving fuse; yet strange to say, while a large quantity of fixed ammunition was close by, there was but very little damage done to material except in the immediate neighborhood. Boxes and kegs of Forsaco's wooden fuses were close by, and numbers upon numbers of loaded bombs and shrapnel shot, and all remained unharmed. The men of the establishment, after slightly recovering from their alarm, rushed for the water sources, and, finding the building on fire, poured in bucket after bucket of water, and succeeded in extinguishing the flames. The magazine is situated within some six or eight feet of the house, and yet it was not injured in the least. It is, indeed, remarkable, considering the number of males and females who were working there at the time and the large amount of explosive material all around, that the loss and suffering was so little.

The excitement in the neighborhood was intense. The spectacle of men and women rushing from the building was exceedingly exciting; but still we are gratified to state that the accident is by no means so great as at first reported.

It was this affair that occasioned the alarm of fire between eleven and twelve o'clock.

FEDERAL SPIES IN THE VALLEY OF VIRGINIA.

[From the Lynchburg Republican.]

We understand that two deserters from the Northern army came into General Jackson's line just about the time of the evacuation of Romney, and reported that the movements of our army were discovered by a spy who was in Winchester and breakfasted at the Washington House the morning before our army advanced. The deserters say that the spy reported the same night to the Yankee commander General Jackson's numbers, his supposed destination, and the amount of provisions he was to take with him; whereupon the order was given to fall back across the Potomac. While going about Winchester a few days since, these men met and arrested another spy, with whom they had been acquainted in the Northern army.

They are now, we understand, engaged in pointing out the Union men, whom they know to be hail fellows well met with the Hessians while they were about Romney and in the vicinity, but who are now, that our troops have the upper hand, the strongest Southern men in the land, if you will just listen to them. By means of these deserters our men have already succeeded in securing several of these double faced gentlemen, and are daily arresting others. The spy that they arrested was, we learn, to be hung. Had it not been for the discoveries made by these spies, it is said General Jackson would have taken the enemy by surprise, and bagged a goodly number, if not the whole of them.

MATTERS AT WINCHESTER, VA.

The Richmond *Dispatch* of the 29th inst. says:—Passengers by the Central cars yesterday report all quiet at Winchester and adjacent country. The Army of the Potomac was resting on its oars, waiting for the enemy to advance—a proceeding which appeared to be as far from their thoughts as ever. Parties who have spent days with the army speak not of the laxity of discipline, but the negligence on the part of officers in accustoming their men to the details of actual battle. One gentleman, who staid five days in camp near Manassas, says beyond mere guard mounting there was nothing done in a military way during that period. This is in strong contrast with the Yankees, who try, but vainly, by such expedients as grand reviews, sham battles, &c., to accustom their men to danger. Though no such devices are required to get our men up to the fighting mark, they nevertheless should be constantly reminded of the great work in hand, and be instructed daily as to the most practicable mode of doing it.

THE BREAKING OF THE BLOCKADE.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Jan. 29.]

Should the blockade be broken in a short time—say in ninety or a hundred days—what a terrible havoc it will play among extortioners in all branches of business. Cloths will drop down to a reasonable figure, and it will be found that there has been all along a great mistake. There had been a plenty of goods, but the holders were really ignorant of the fact. A vast variety of articles stored away for high prices will crawl out from their hiding places and be offered to the public at moderate prices. The public will indeed be beset on all hands with the kind and obliging offers of holders who will sell them almost anything they need at prices so reasonable as to amaze us all. We should not be surprised if the salt works would immediately supply some of the orders so long waiting to be supplied at the stipulated price of seventy-five cent per cents per bushel. These orders are all of them now so far off on the file that it is impossible to reach them *so long as salt is selling at ten dollars a bushel*. But let the blockade be raised, and these *seventy-five cents per bushel orders* will be filled immediately, and very simply because the great impediment of ten dollars a bushel will be removed, and the salt manufacturers will be at once enabled to do justice to themselves and the public by filling the orders so long and so reluctantly deferred.

The event will, indeed, be wonderful in its effects and inappreciably beneficial to the public. It cannot happen too soon for anybody save the monopolists and the extortioners.

A "YANKEE" EXPRESSES AN OPINION.

The Richmond *Dispatch* of the 27th says:—When the last flag of truce steamer went from this city to Newport News one of the released prisoners threw a letter into the engine room, a copy of which has been shown to us. He is honest enough to say that provisions of every kind are scarce in the South, "thus proving the value of the blockade, and that the Southern confederacy is near played out." These fellows have generally harped upon a different string until they got back to Lincolndom. It seems, from another portion of his letter, that his "opinion" is based upon the amount and quality of provisions furnished in the prisons, and implies that Yankees who come here to murder and destroy should be furnished with hotel fare and an extravagant abundance. It may, however, interest persons in other portions of the "Southern confederacy" to know that in this particular quarter of the moral vineyard honest men are in no danger of starvation, either immediate or remote.

VOTE OF THANKS TO GENERAL JOS. E. JOHNSON.

The following despatch from Richmond, Jan. 30, to the Norfolk *Day Book* says:—The House of Delegates passed resolutions last night in secret session, thanking in appropriate terms General Jos. E. Johnson for his distinguished services, and conferring, as a slight testimonial of appreciation by the Legislature, of the right for life of annually appointing two cadets to the State Military Institute.

A CURIOSITY TO THE REBELS.

Among the advertisements in the Richmond *Dispatch* is the following:—

Wanted—Persons to know that at the Confederate Reading Room can be seen (from the NEW YORK HERALD) a "map" of the position held by Gen. Zollicoffer, with the plan and geographical description of his fortifications and intrenchments.

KENTUCKY.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS TO THE RICHMOND PAPERS.

NASHVILLE, Jan. 25, 1862.

The Fort Henry correspondent of the *Union and American* says that federal gunboats came up near to that post on the 22d inst., and fired four shots from behind Point Island. One of the shot passed through the chimney of the steamer Linn Boyd, which was lying at the fort. One fell in front of her bow, and one eight-inch mortar-shell burst and fell on the fort. "Nobody was hurt." The pickets which returned on the night of the 22d inst. report that the enemy are encamped at Calloway, sixteen miles below the fort, and on the opposite side of the river. Its force is variously estimated from five to twenty-five thousand. It is thought they are erecting fortifications there. It is very well understood that this is the force that was at Murray. Stragglers from Fishing Creek bring very contradictory reports, but generally concur that the enemy lost more than the Confederates in that engagement. The loss on our side is not stated, but former reports at from two to three hundred continue to be sustained. General Zollicoffer's horse and servant reached here this afternoon.

A special despatch from Knoxville states that Col. Rutledge and all his command are safe.

WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH OUR PLUNDER?

The Bowling Green *Courier* strongly urges that the five millions of dollars lately seized in Louisiana, belonging to Lincolnite banks in Louisville, Kentucky, shall be applied to the use of the Kentucky State government, without going through the usual sequestration process.

NORTH CAROLINA.

REBEL FINANCES.

The Raleigh (N. C.) *Standard* says that on the 21st inst. Colonel Brown, of Caswell, introduced an ordinance to give to volunteers for the war twenty-five dollars bounty in addition to the fifty dollars offered by the Confederate government.

The Convention has also passed an ordinance providing that the interest attached to the three millions of Treasury notes ordered to be issued at the last session, shall be stricken out. We learn that about $325,000 of these interest bearing notes have already been issued by the Treasurer, and by the ordinance just passed these notes will be continued in circulation and the interest paid on them at maturity. The main reason for striking out the interest was that the banks declined to receive the interest bearing notes.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

[Special correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 21, 1862.

Cotton Advancing—Important Movement—Literary Institutions, &c.

King cotton seems to be again resuming his throne, which he has vacated a little while only to show how supreme is his sway. I have just conversed with a distinguished planter who has been offered eight cents a pound for his entire crop. A little while ago it was six cents a pound. Every intelligent man with whom I have conversed thinks that the war will be closed within a few months, and thus the advance in this great staple.

The Legislature has appointed a Council of Three to aid Governor Pickens. Ex-Governor Gist and Colonel Chesnut are two of the Council. Upon the arrival of the Council the Governor committed to them the affairs of State, and went out recuperating into the country.

The State College, located here, has fifty students. The Southern Presbyterian Seminary has thirty. The Methodist Female College and the Military Institute, also located here, have a small attendance.

The *Dispatch* is more sought for here than any paper of the confederacy. Everybody seems anxious to get it when the train reaches here from Richmond.

A NEW REBEL WAR VESSEL.

The Charleston *Courier* calls the attention of the authorities entrusted with the duty of procuring a steam ram, for which an appropriation of $200,000 was made by the South Carolina State Convention at its late session, to the model and plan of a war vessel recently designed by one of our native mechanics. The plan has been examined by the Navy Department at Richmond, who admitted it to embrace features which are regarded as new and eminently useful. Among the advantages presented by this plan are those of swiftness, to overtake a fleeing enemy, and the ability to crush an opposing vessel in a part most susceptible of damage and incapable of repair. At the same time this war vessel will be so constructed as to expose but a very small surface to the shot of the enemy, and even that surface, small as it is, can at pleasure be safely reduced by depressing the vessel still further in the water. The internal arrangements are such that, should the shot accidentally penetrate one part, the injury therefrom cannot be communicated to other parts of the vessel.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 25, 1862.

The Great Fire—Calhoun's Grave—Important Movements, &c., &c.

To a stranger the vast ruins to which a portion of Charleston has been reduced is truly appalling. Such heaps of brick I have never before looked upon. Here and there are a few negroes at work among the ruins clearing away the brick, as if looking for some valuables which have been buried beneath the prostrate walls.

I have had the privilege of looking upon John C. Calhoun's grave, upon which there was a beautiful bunch of flowers, and was told that every day since the great statesman made that his final resting place an old servant has visited his grave and placed upon it fresh flowers. While that old man's life lasts the grave of his master shall not want for tender care.

Rev. A. H. Tupper, who has been acting as Chaplain at Manassas for seven months, has returned to this city, and is now attending to the spiritual wants of the city hospitals. Rev. J. P. Boyce, D.D., is also here as Chaplain of the Greenville regiment. These two gentlemen are among the most wealthy clergymen in the South, and I am happy to say they are very unlike the few miserly rich preachers here and there through the land, who never preach against covetousness for fear that some one may point to the pulpit and say—"Thou art the man."

I visited an institution of learning in this State a few days since, towards which one of the chaplains whose name I have given you gave some $30,000. The next day I was at Columbia, and looked upon a beautiful church edifice, towards the building of which he paid $10,000; and yesterday I visited the spacious and elegant new building of the Citadel square Baptist church, in this city, towards which this same clergyman and his family gave $35,000. It is refreshing to see such chaplains as Boyce and Tupper in the Confederate army.

There is no apprehension of an attack here. *I understand that many who left here at the fall of Port Royal, and fled to the mountains, are now returning.*

GEORGIA.

[Special correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

SAVANNAH, Jan. 21, 1862.

The Yankees Yet Undemonstrative—Visit of Gov. Brown—The Salt Question—Provisions, &c.—Tatnall's Fleet Described, &c.

I take the first leisure moments to write you the occurrences of the past few days, that have been allowed me since my return to active life and business. The small importance of these events do not excuse me, or rather will not, for should I wait for our enemies to gather courage, I fear I should be forced to wait so long a time, especially since the Burnside fleet has been finally determined, as it appears, to be designed against some portion of the Old North State, and possibly against Norfolk in the rear, I will be at a loss for some entertaining news to give your readers. It is the duty of the correspondent, I think, simply to tell "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth," in his letters, and should the theme permit the use of graceful language and appropriate metaphor, it is equally incumbent upon him to lend dignity to it by their use; but I must impress upon the readers of the *Dispatch* that the correspondent cannot be brought to account for any lack of nerve in our foes or too strict vigilance on the part of our guardians. The Yankees still remain so quiet that there is little to chronicle, and whenever an attempt is made by them to land, it is so promptly met, and they back out so precipitately, that all the excitement is lost, and the soldiers, who sigh for a fight, relapse instanter into dull and listless apathy.

There are many here who seriously wish that our outposts would permit the landing of the Hessians, until they had accumulated sufficient force to make the fight interesting, and many of the exempt are prepared to take the field for a day's sport whenever the game shall be flushed.

Our Georgia boys do not appear to entertain as high an appreciation of the peculiar honor of the State service in contradistinction to the Confederate service as they had some time ago, when they elected to remain in the service of the State. While the regiments in the Confederate army about here are well supplied in every requisite, I believe general complaint has been made against the commissary supplies to the State troops generally, and to-day I hear that the ladies of Savannah have been called into requisition to make cartridges, the number of those being inadequate for any service more than a few rounds.

On Saturday the city was visited by the distinguished Governor, familiarly known as Joe Brown, and he still remains. I understand his Excellency had expected that the Burnside fleet would assail, during this week, his eminent domain of Georgia, and had resolved to take the field, beside his friend General Walker, to gain his spurs on the battle field. The Governor, it must be known, is not a favorite in the Southern section of the State, and especially is he obnoxious to the city of Savannah. His "financial ability" is the never ending theme of satire on the part of the Savannah press, and his rare success in reducing the price of salt from six dollars the sack to twenty dollars and twenty-five dollars is not suffered to pass quietly into oblivion.

There appears to have sprung up in several States a few men who, with exceedingly limited acquaintance with the general laws of trade, with the purpose of arresting the growing desire to monopolize the traffic in a few of the necessities of life, have inaugurated a system very much allied to the sumptuary laws. The end desired has never and can never be attained by any such method. The supply and demand will infallibly rectify any inequality in prices; and it is idle to constrain the public, for it is the public who is constrained, and not the merchant, from purchasing any commodity it may need from whomsoever may possess it. I think the result of the attempt has been fully satisfactory to the people of Georgia, at least to all that portion who look with a thoughtful eye to the commercial importance of the question without any individual interest in the price of bacon. Florida has thought proper to adopt a similar system of prohibition of export, of not one, but many of the articles of daily consumption. The object sought after it is difficult to imagine. In a State where the consumption of the great staples now so much in demand is much larger than the production, and where the deficit has to be made up by importation, it seems a foolish and vain act of legislation to impose restrictions upon exports. But the benefit of a good example is not to be lost, and Florida has fallen in love with Joe Brown as well as the up country people.

On Saturday night the federals landed and fired upon a picket on Skiddaway Island; the fire was returned, when the party, consisting of two boats' crews, double quicked it back to their boats, and were off in no time. It apparently was a surprise. I cannot comprehend how a boat's crew could land and fire upon a picket guard before being detected. It is said that some of the pickets were asleep; certainly the Yankees had sufficient time to aim with deliberation, as seven balls were found in a small sapling contiguous to the fire. The practice of allowing a fire to the picket on exposed positions is reprehensible, as it discloses to the enemy the very fact of our guard, and in many instances enables him to evade the vigilance of the sentry, if he has not yielded to the influence of the fire.

I live in the hope of soon having some news worth writing about and of reading about also. If McClellan is getting his transportation ready he must be about to try a trip down the Potomac, via Occoquan and the batteries at Evansport; and things look lively in Kentucky, and may prove that a general advance is at hand. I trust it may not be fallacious; for I believe we are ready to meet the advance at any place. Stone Wall Jackson has been quite busy in Morgan and Hampshire, and has, by your latest accounts, cleaned out the Yankees from that section. I am especially pleased that Romney has been liberated from the grip they have held upon it so long.

I have spoken of many items of news about Savannah, but have failed hitherto to give you an account of the insurgent's fleet which the gallant veteran Commodore Tatnall has handled so long and so well. It lies below at or near Fort Jackson, and only rarely comes up to town except when the Commodore is here and in command. The flagship Savannah has seen some service, especially in the Port Royal affair, whence, through the ignorance alone of the Yankee captains, she was allowed to make her way to this city through the creek, which is now entirely in their hands. Since that time the flagship Savannah and her consort, the Resolute, have offered battle to the federal gunboats on several occasions, and have in other instances come upon them so suddenly as to put them to flight with marked speed. It is said about this city that the Hessian navy is unquestionably afraid of the small fleet, which the gallant Commodore has raised up from nothing, or rather less than nothing, since only the poorest specimen of river craft could be found here.

It is a marvel that they have withstood as much as they have, not only in the constant and unremitted service, but the frequent attacks of the enemy, all their efforts having proved abortive. It is a stirring sight to see the fleet in motion with the gunboats in tow, proceeding down the river with a strong current and a good head of steam, though not so imposing as the Spithead review of the British navy; yet it is a source of gratification that some little effort has been made to form the nucleus of a future navy and a school for the mariner. Two gunboats, armed with one rifled thirty-two and two eight-inch columbiads, have been built and are now ready for service; and two steam sloops, propelled by screws, are now being built, and will soon be ready to take to its native element if the scarcity of lumber should not prevent its completion.

We have lost some man lately by desertion, two, named Graves and Westcott, have been missing, and have been reported last as seen climbing the sides of a Lincolnite steamer. One of the parties (Westcott) is a Yankee, and the other a Carolinian. It is not beyond the range of conjecture that the crafty Yankee entrapped Graves into the expedition for the purpose of desertion, without communicating his design.

It is with profound regret that the news of the death of the venerable ex-President Tyler was received here. The last of all the Presidents of the once United States, who living, was borne in the minds and memories of a once contented people, and who going down to the grave with venerable years and the esteem of his fellow citizens has left no one who shall in the future be even a memorial of the high office so honorably filled. The roll of fame of the mother of States has been newly written upon, and though John Tyler may not have brought so many great and distinctive traits of statesmanship to the Presidency, his integrity and the glorious distinction of having added Texas to the national galaxy will forever cause his memory to be gratefully cherished. That Texas is to-day a great State beside the very Power that attempted to exclude her, and which now with vain boastings affect the Power to render her back to anarchy. All honor to the illustrious dead.

ALABAMA.

MOBILE ARMING.

The Mobile *Advertiser* of a late date says:—

Volunteering is going on in our city with a rush. The cry, no longer "Who'll start?" has now become "Devil take the hindmost." The Governor's limits of eighteen and sixty years of age are entirely disregarded.

FLORIDA.

THE CAPTURE OF CEDAR KEYS—GREAT DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY—ITS STRATEGICAL IMPORTANCE.

The Savannah *News* of the 26th inst. says that a letter dated on the 19th inst., from Cedar Keys, Fla., confirms the reported capture of that place. The federals burned the town, the wharves and five loaded schooners in that port, also fifty bales of cotton and 160 barrels of turpentine. The schooner Fanny escaped up the Christol river. A flat, with fifteen men and some ladies, was captured by the Yankees. The men were ironed. The captain of the schooner Ann Smith and some civilians were released on their parole after two days' confinement.

A letter from Fernandina says that the citizens of Cedar Keys were not molested, and that private property was not taken.

The enemy have left the place.

TENNESSEE.

FEDERAL PROGRESS IN NORTH TENNESSEE—OCCUPATION OF MURRAY, KY.—PARIS MENACED—STAMPEDE AMONG THE INHABITANTS.

[From the Memphis Argus, Jan. 20.]

Three gentlemen who arrived at Paris before the departure of the train for this city brought information that the federals had advanced in force to Murray, Ky., only twenty-five miles north of Paris. That they would continue their march to Paris, between which and Murray, we learn, there is no Confederate force sufficient to resist them, was generally anticipated. No advance, however, had been made up to yesterday afternoon.

The force of the federals is variously estimated at Paris at from 5,000 to 20,000, some declaring it to reach 25,000. From information previously received we deem 10,000 or 12,000 a more correct estimate.

Paris was in a perfect ferment of excitement yesterday, and many, anticipating an immediate descent of the enemy, which they deemed themselves utterly powerless to resist, were preparing to leave with negroes and other property for various points southward. One gentleman alone endeavored to obtain transportation on the train for seventy negroes, fearing they would fall into the hands of the federals.

In our previous report of matters at Fort Henry we stated firing ceased from the federal gunboats at one o'clock Friday afternoon—a fact which at once gave rise to the apprehension that the fort had fallen into the hands of the enemy. We learn, however, that Fort Henry is still safe, the enemy, for some reason, having withdrawn from the immediate vicinity.

The shots of the gunboats were not replied to from the fort, which will be held at all hazards. No doubt the design of the enemy in bombarding the fort on Friday afternoon was to discover the position and calibre of the guns. Whatever were their designs, they were frustrated.

These demonstrations, together with those threatened at Bowling Green and Columbus, indicate hot work and plenty of it at no distant period.

SALE OF NEGROES—PRICE OF CONTRABANDS.

The Richmond *Dispatch* has the following:—

MORRISTOWN, Tenn., Jan. 21, 1862.

To day there was an auction sale at this place of forty-six negroes. The following are the ages and prices of some of the sales:—

One negro girl, age seventeen years, brought $1,505.
Another girl, age seventeen years, brought $1,570.
Negro fellow, age twenty-three years, brought $1,860—blacksmith.
Negro fellow, age twenty-nine years, brought $1,600.
Negro girl, age thirteen years, brought $1,305.
Negro girl, age fifteen years, brought $1,600.
Negro girl, age twelve years, brought $1,100.

All of them were purchased by citizens of the neighborhood and country. They were a lot of negroes belonging to the estate of L. D. Franklin, deceased, and before and at the time of his death a resident of an adjoining neighborhood, and was one of our wealthiest citizens. His estate, clear of liabilities, turns out to be worth between $700,000 and $800,000.

Homeopathy in the Army and Navy.

It is now more than twenty years since homeopathy has been generally known in this country as a safe, reliable and eminently successful mode of practice; and homeopathists believe the time has fully arrived when the same legal privileges should be everywhere extended to it as are enjoyed by the allopathic school. There can be no more valid reason why educated and duly qualified physicians should be rejected when applicants for the position of surgeons in the army and navy, solely on the ground that they are believers in and practice homeopathy, than there would be in refusing a chaplain an appointment because not a member of a particular religious sect.

Most homeopathic physicians are graduates of allopathic medical colleges, and possessors of diplomas from those institutions, certifying that they are duly qualified to practice medicine and surgery. To the knowledge of allopathy thus obtained they have merely superadded a knowledge of homeopathy, and believing the latter the more successful method, choose to practice it. But for this offence, and this alone, they are denied commissions by the present army boards, both State and national. Has not a physician the right—nay, is it not his imperative duty—to avail himself of whatever means his reading and experience may have taught him to be most safe and speedy for the relief of his patients? The army boards think otherwise, and require candidates to adopt their own antiquated notions of therapeutics.

State enactments have given the homeopathic the same legal *status* as the allopathic professions. In April, 1857, the Legislature of the State of New York passed an act authorizing homeopathic physicians to organize county societies, which, when organized, should "have all the powers, rights and privileges, and be subject to all the duties and responsibilities now by law given to or imposed upon county medical societies (allopathic) organized under the act passed April 10, 1813."

In accordance with this act societies have been organized in many of the counties of this State, and all the members of these associations have thus acquired the same legal *status* in this State as the members of the allopathic county societies. Under the laws of the State of New York, therefore, homeopathists are as eligible as surgeons in the army and navy as the allopathists. The same legal *status* exists in most if not all the other loyal States. Yet, notwithstanding this, whenever the predilections were known to their State examiners they have uniformly been refused even an examination; and when, through the ignorance of these examiners of their medical proclivities, having passed a satisfactory examination, they have been commissioned by State authority, and on arriving in Washington with their regiments they are constantly liable to removal on the sole ground of adherence to homeopathy.

Such an assumption on the part of the corps of Medical Examiners is insulting to homeopathists as a numerous class of educated and legally qualified practitioners, and no less so to the Empire State and its Legislature, which has seen fit to extend to them a legal recognition, and has incorporated for them a medical college now in successful operation in the city of New York. This is equally true of the great States of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Missouri, in each of which medical colleges are incorporated by their respective Legislatures, with all the rights of allopathic medical colleges, including the privilege of conferring diplomas upon their graduates, entitling them to practice in those States.

The puerile charge of "irregularity" brought against the homeopathic profession by the allopathic fraternity can be easily disposed of. Most homeopathists are graduates of allopathic colleges; who have become converts to homeopathy since graduation. The remainder are graduates of homeopathic colleges, in all of which, with the exception of a single department, the curriculum of study is the same as that prescribed in the old school colleges. The sciences of anatomy, physiology and chemistry, the practice of surgery and of obstetrics, together with the natural history, symptoms and pathology of diseases are taught in the same manner, and from precisely the same text books in the one class of colleges as the other. On therapeutics alone they differ. Here, however, the homeopathist has decidedly the advantage, from the fact that in all the homeopathic colleges it is considered important to teach the allopathic therapeutics, in order the more understandingly to antidote the effects of the treatment in patients who have been subjected to it previously to coming into the hands of homeopathists, and to enable them to refute the attacks to which they are subjected by the adherents of that school. The converse of this, however, is not true. The graduates of allopathic colleges are not necessarily at all familiar with homeopathy.

There is no ground, therefore, on which the opposition of the allopathic school can be based, except the selfish desire to retain and perpetuate a lucrative monopoly, and their inherited jealousy of innovation.

Numerous as are the abuses to which homeopathists are constantly subjected, we do not propose any further allusion to them in this connection. They continually remind us of the exercise of arbitrary power on the part of allopathists, which, if generally known, would subject them to the severest censure.

Homeopathy is now practiced in all portions of the civilized world; homeopathic journals are published in almost all European languages; homeopathic hospitals and dispensaries are acknowledged and supported by government in various countries in Europe, and many of these countries have sanctioned and encouraged this system of practice by special legislative enactments; it has its professors in European universities, and its numerous court physicians in continental courts; and, while almost unknown at the commencement of this century, it has been spreading at a rate unparalleled in the history of medicine.

The homeopathic profession in our own country now numbers its practitioners by thousands, and its patrons by millions, a very large proportion of whom are among the most intelligent and wealthy classes in every community in the loyal States, and whose means and influence are now given to the administration in all its measures.

Many thousands of our citizens who prefer homeopathic treatment are enlisted in the regular and volunteer forces of the army and navy, and count it one of the sorest privations of the service that in sickness they are to be deprived of this humane method of treatment. While these citizens are devoting their lives and money to the service of their country in this her hour of peril, have they not a right to ask that when stricken down by disease or casualty they may have that system of practice in which alone they can place confidence? The allopathic profession at the present time has the power. Shall it continue to enforce upon our friends or kindred a method of treatment which they strongly disapprove?

The passage of such an act as is now desired by the homeopathists might be urged on other and humanitarian grounds. We do not propose, however, at this time, to discuss the subject from that point of view, preferring that Congress should take action in this matter as a simple act of justice to a very large and influential class of citizens.

In view of the facts above stated, may not the homeopathists confidently claim a constitutional right to governmental protection and patronage?

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Between Twenty-first and Twenty-second streets.

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CORSETS AND SKIRTS.—NICE FITTING CORSETS, from 75 cents; best steel Skirts from 50 cents; Worley's Paris made Corsets, very cheap. N. B.—New French Frillings, Rufflings, Edgings and Laces for under-garments. Joubin's Gloves at 63 cents, at ELGER'S, 380 and 382 Broadway, near Nineteenth street, east side.

TO THE LADIES.—J. RUSSELL, FORMERLY OF CALcutta, India, and for several years in charge of camels hair shawl department of G. A. Hearn, and more recently hair shawl department of A. T. Stewart & Co., begs to announce that he has now commenced business on his own account, and will give his attention to repairing, altering and cleaning India shawls. He has now a few bargains in antique long shawls, from $30 to $75; also in regular goods in square, from $75 to $150. Ladies wishing to exchange or dispose of their shawls will be dealt with liberally. Visiting the European markets several times a year, he will be in a position to purchase to order specialties in design and colors, and will show his goods and take orders at 232 Wooster street, corner of Amity.

TO THE DEALERS IN RICH LACES AND EMBROIDERIES.—Old, yellow and dusty stock remaining in their cartons put up as fresh as new, by a new French patent process, without water or powder. Charges very low. Only send notice to the subscriber and he will call and examine the work. Manufacturer's Depot of Laces.
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A LARGE ORDER.—$15,000 WORTH OF CAST OFF Clothing, Carpets, Furniture and Jewelry wanted for the Western and California markets. Ladies and gentlemen having any to dispose of can receive 50 per cent more than by any other dealer in the city. Call at or address B. Mintz, 179 Third avenue, near Seventeenth street. Ladies attended by Mrs. Mintz, 179 Third avenue.

A GREAT QUANTITY OF CAST OFF CLOTHING wanted, Furniture, Carpets, Jewelry, &c., to supply the Western market. I pay as follows:—For Silk Dresses, from $12 to $40; Coats, from $10 to $20; Pants, from $3 to $8. Call on or address A. Ducas, No. 218 Seventh avenue, between Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth streets. Ladies attended to by Mrs. D.

ATTENTION, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—I HAVE A just received $4,000 to purchase cast off Clothing, Furniture and Carpets for the California market. I do promise to pay the highest price in the city by calling on or addressing a note to E. MINTZ, 137 Sixth avenue, two doors above Tenth street. Ladies attended to by Mrs. Mintz. Remember, 137 Sixth avenue.

AT THE CALIFORNIAN AND WESTERN AGENCY Store the highest price can be obtained for cast off Clothing, Carpets, Jewelry, &c. For Silk Dresses, from $8 to $35; for Coats, from $2 to $18; for Pants, from $1 50 to $6. A note addressed B. Harris, 353 Bowery, opposite Great Jones street, will be punctually attended to. Ladies attended by Mrs. Harris.

A GOOD TIME COME AT LAST.—TO LADIES AND gentlemen.—The best prices given for cast off Clothing, Carpets, Furniture, &c. I pay as follows:—Silk Dresses, from $12 to $40; coats, from $10 to $15; pants, from $2 to $5. Please call on or address M., 212 Seventh avenue, near Twenty-fourth street. Ladies attended to by Mrs. M.

A DEMAND.—$12,000 WORTH OF CAST OFF CLOTHing, Carpets, Furniture and Jewelry wanted, for which the most value can be obtained, by calling on or addressing E. H., 79 Sixth avenue, near Waverley place. Ladies attended by Mrs. E. H. Please remember and try 79 Sixth avenue.

AT HARRIS' STORE, 156 SEVENTH AVENUE, LADIES and gentlemen can receive the following prices for their cast off Clothing, Carpets,